

MARVEL

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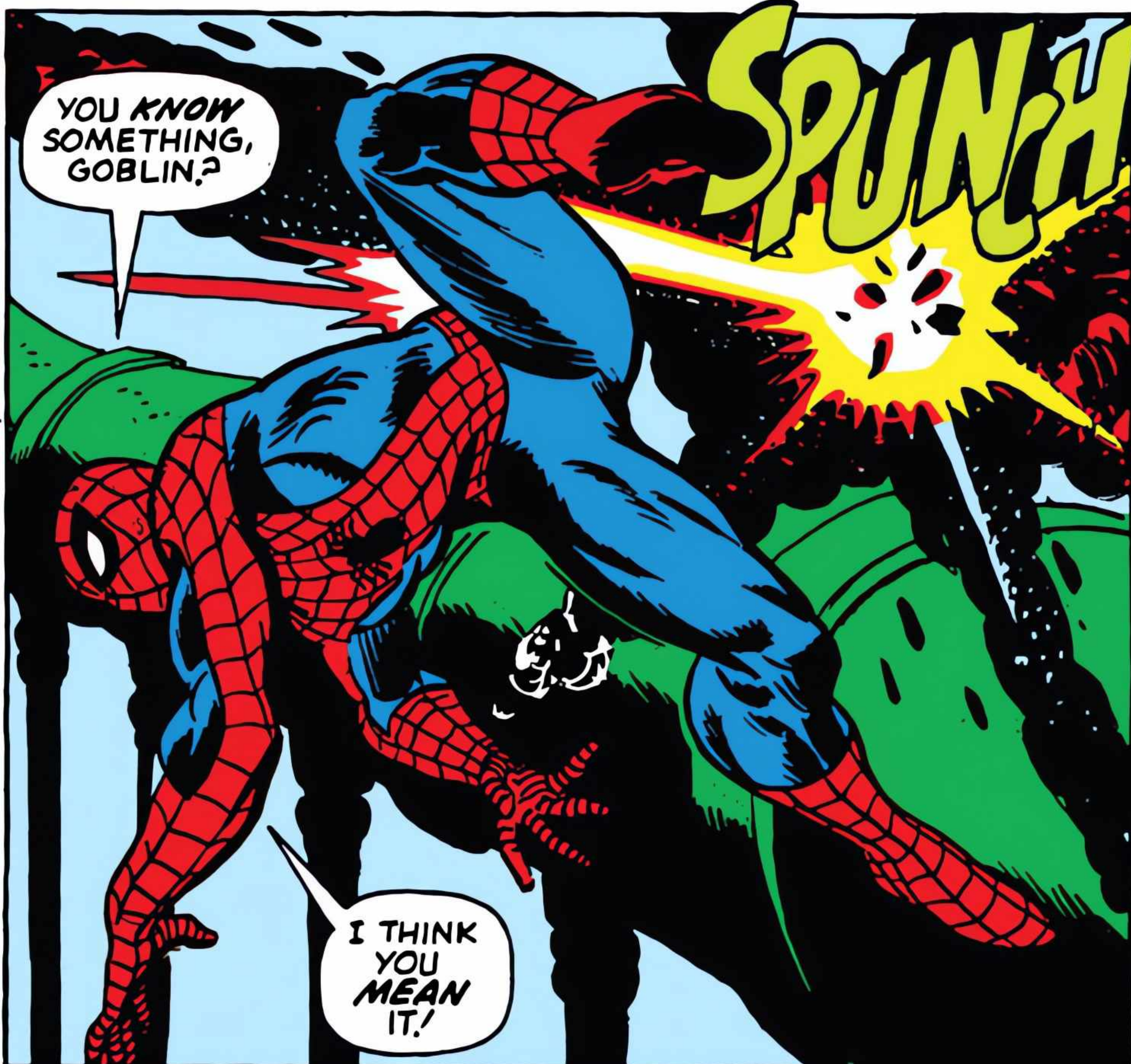
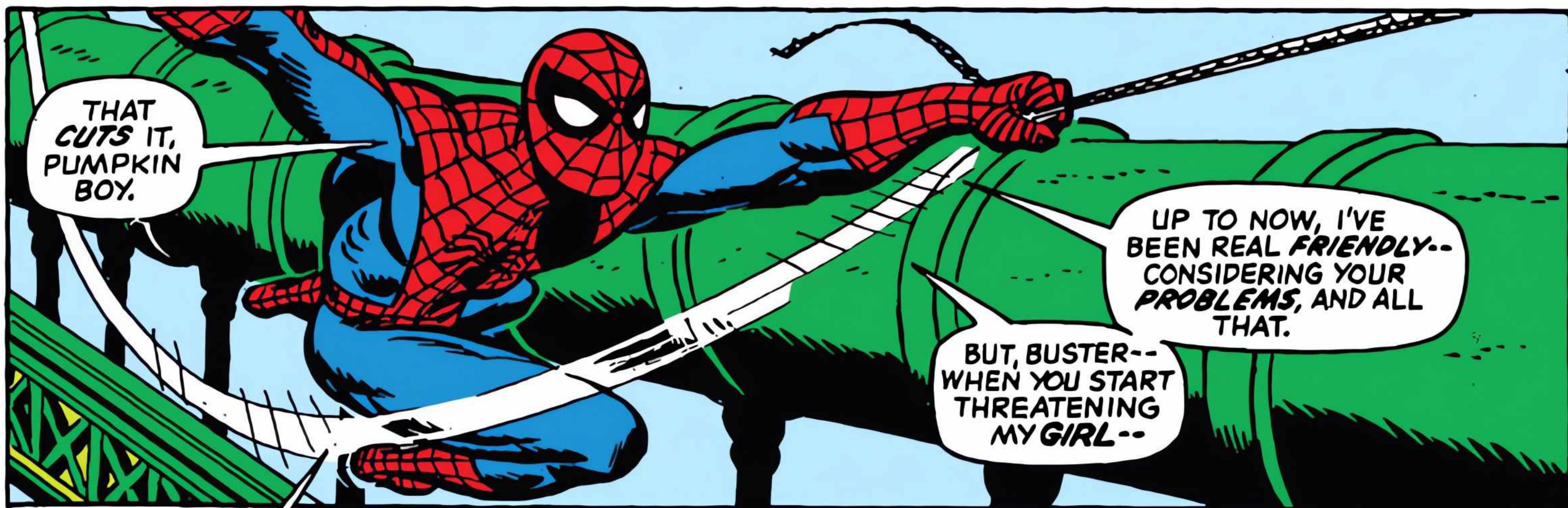
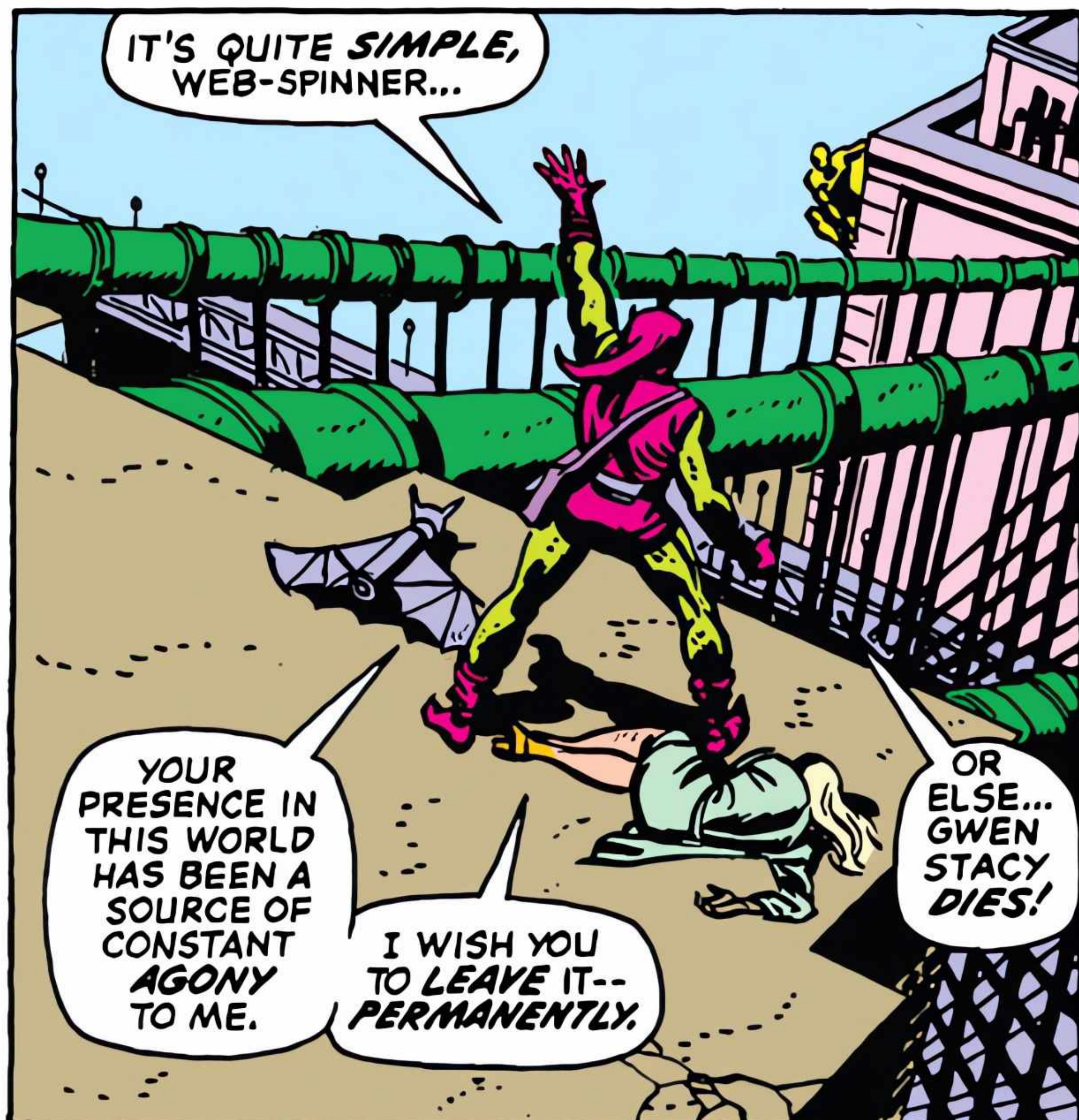
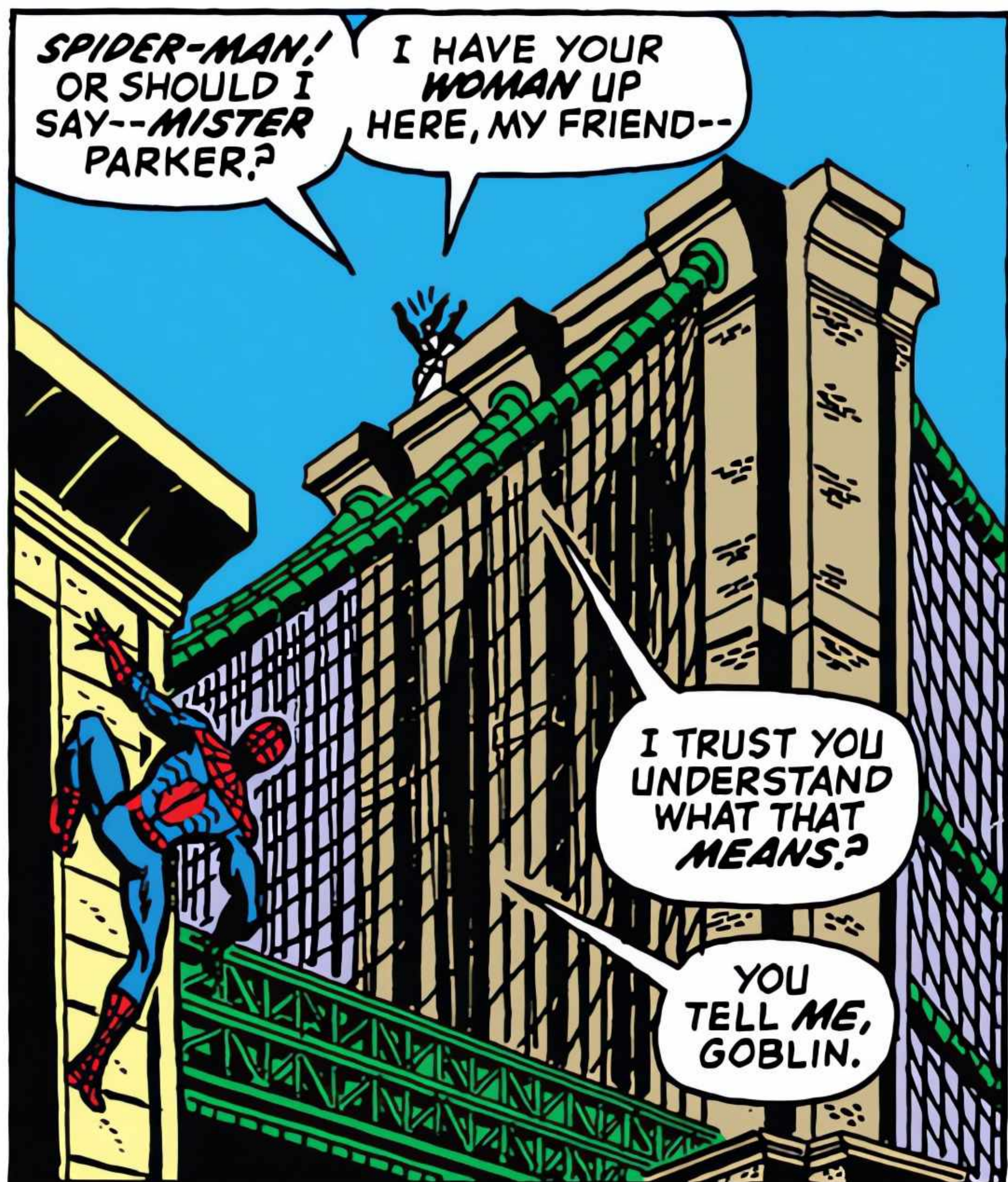
GERRY CONWAY
JODY HOUSER
RAMÓN F. BACHS
DEE CUNIFFE

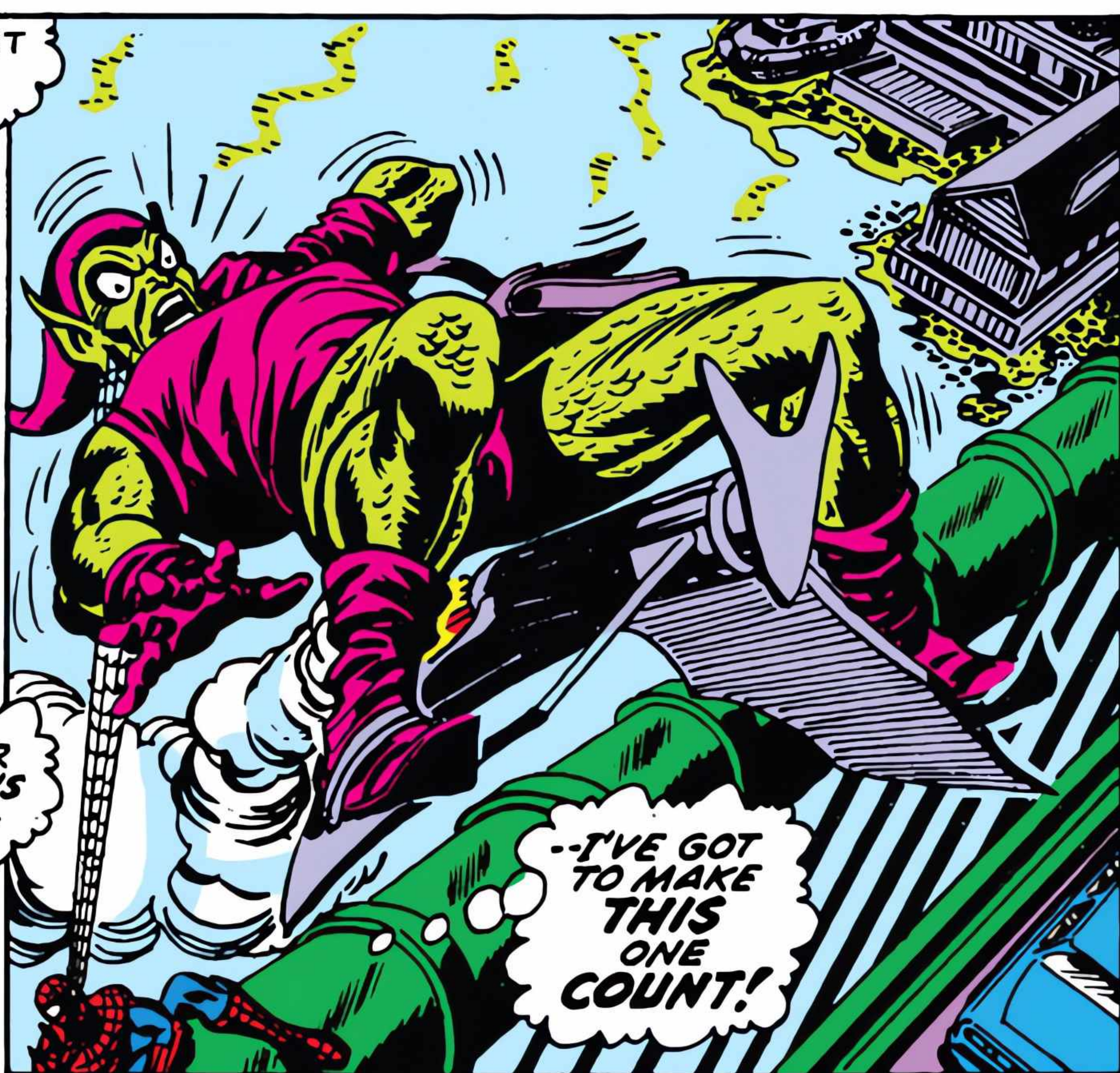
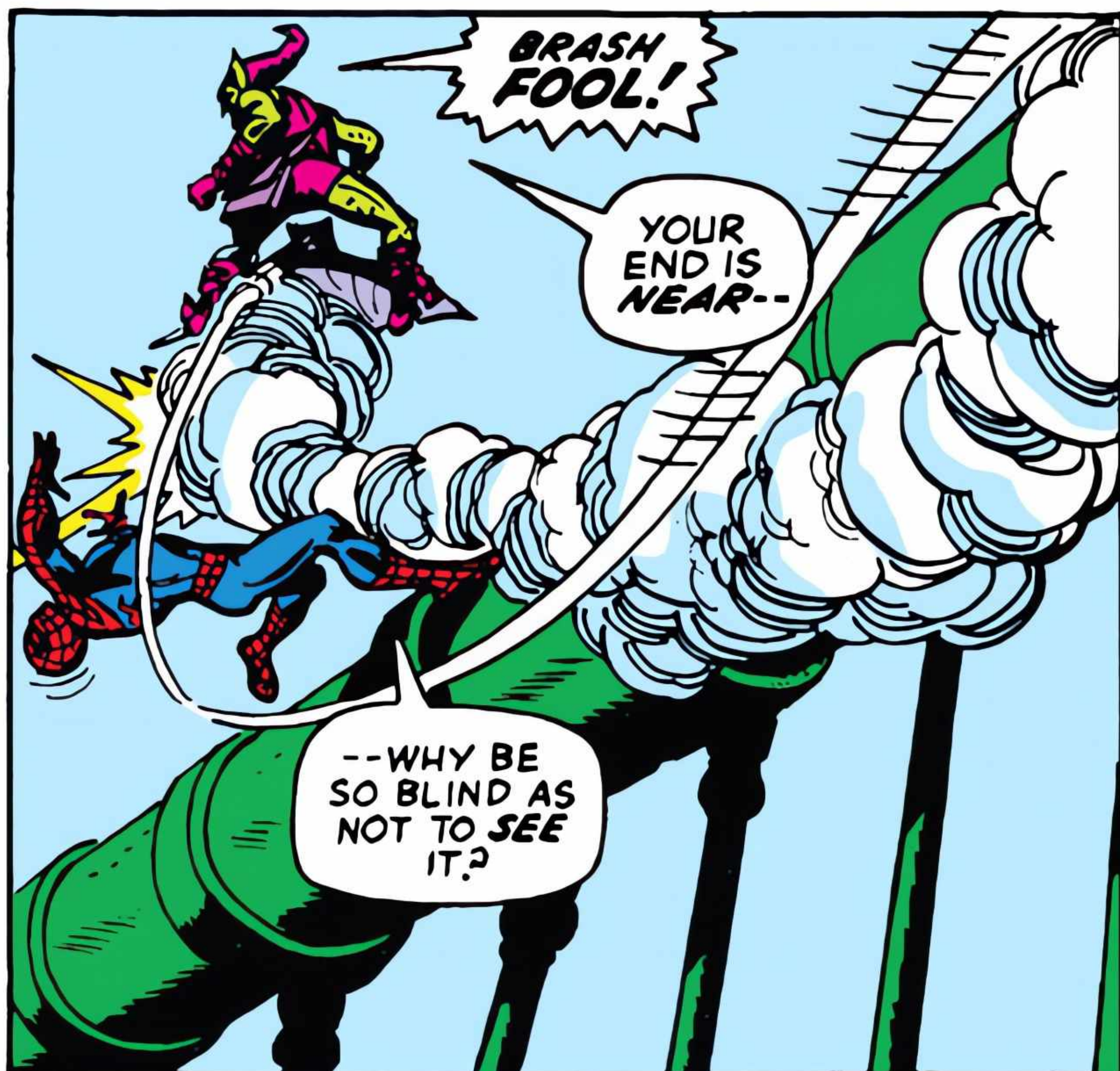
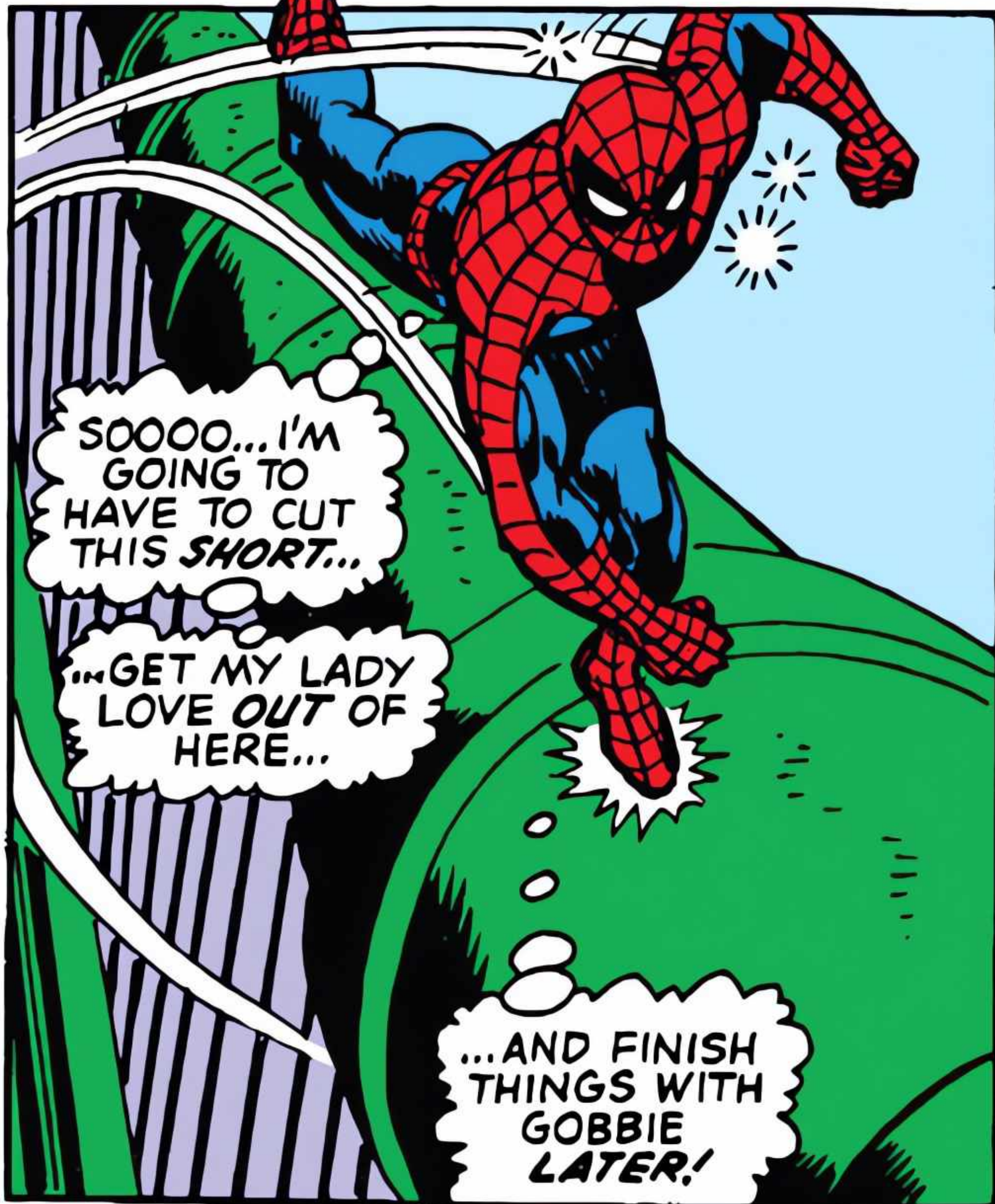
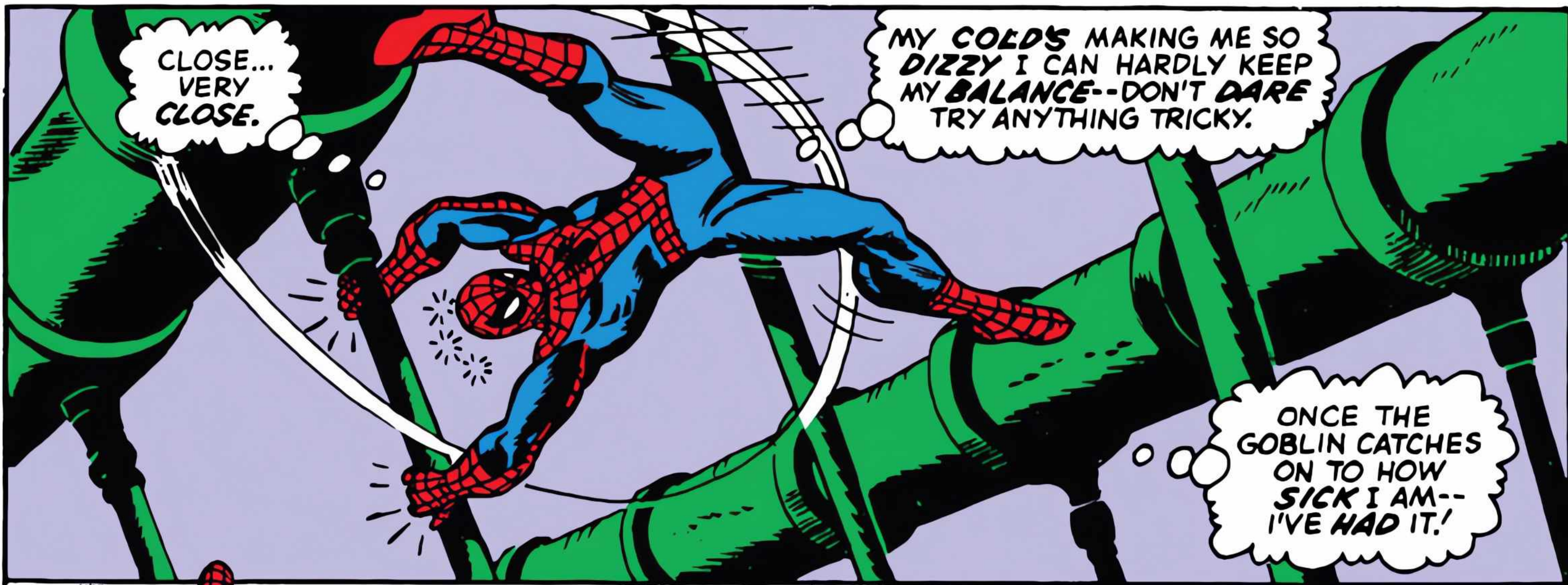
WHAT IF...? DARK

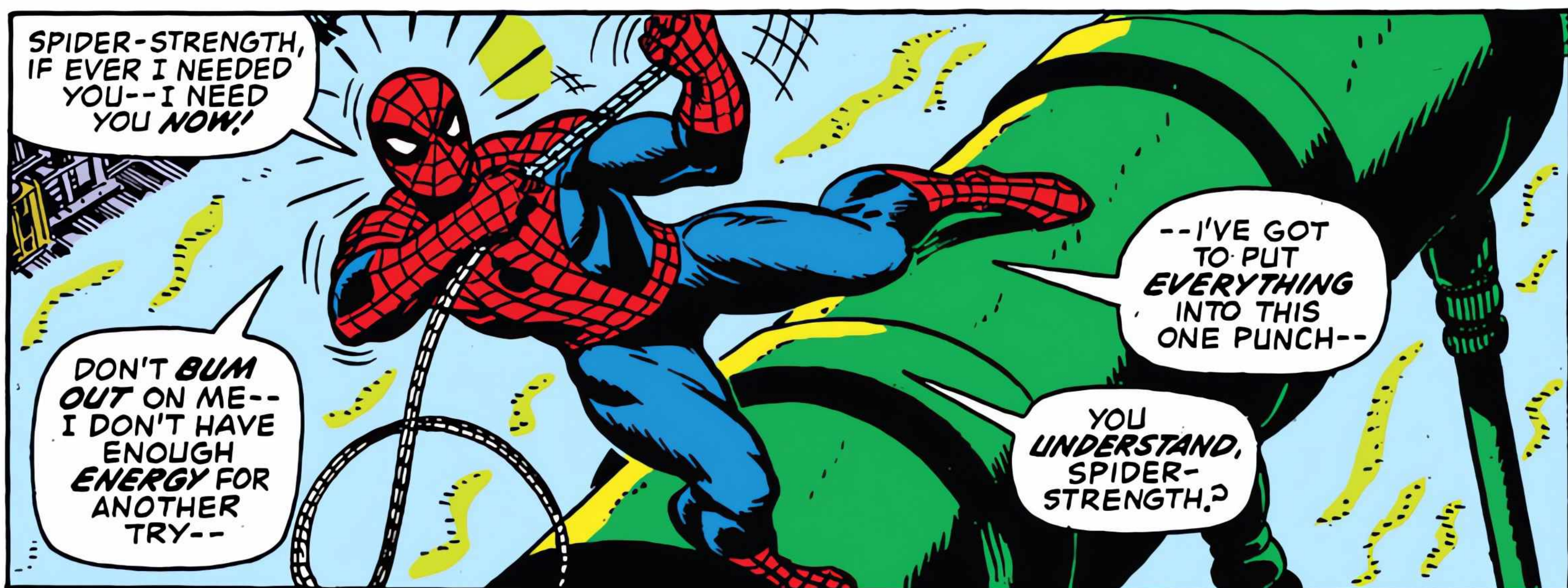
SPIDER-GWEN

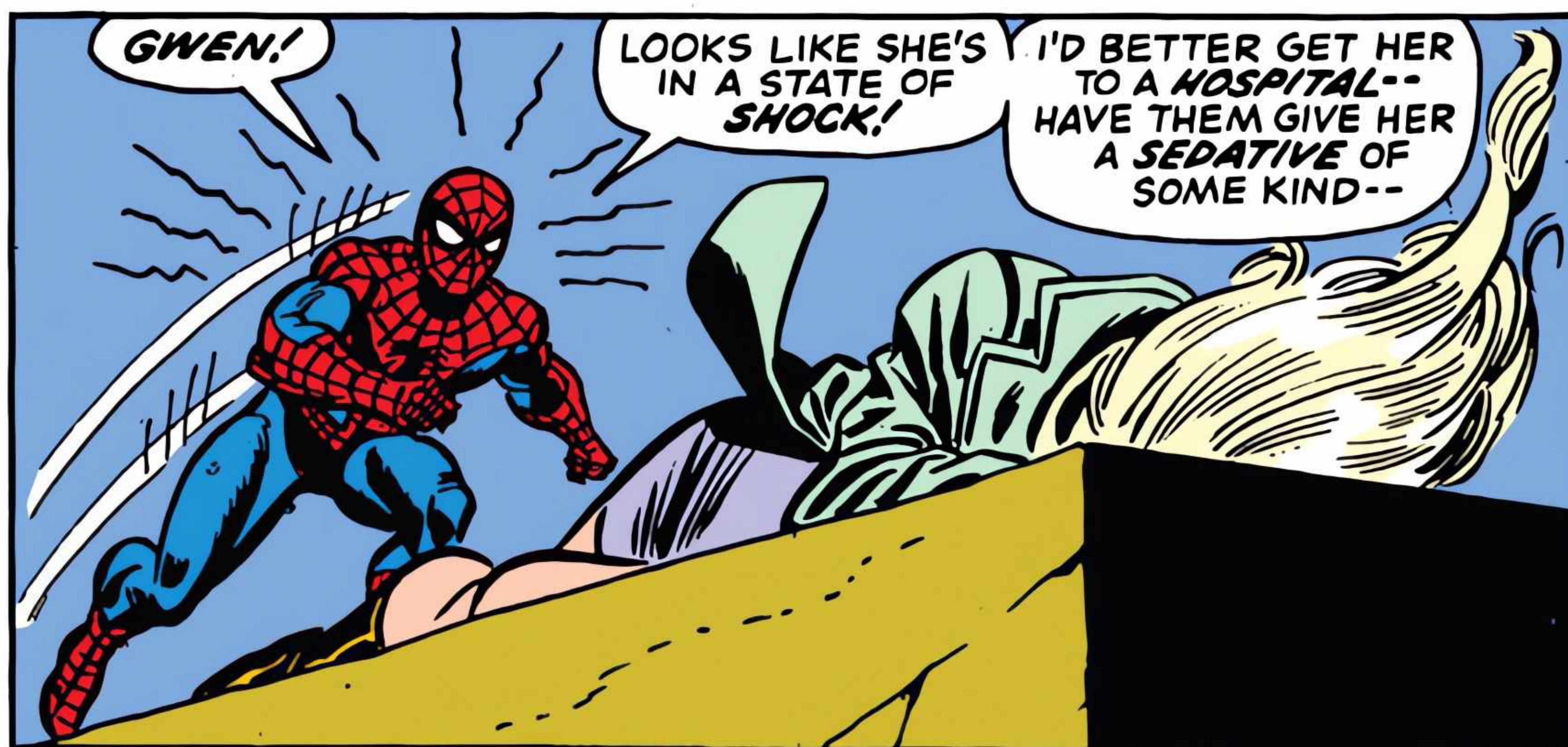
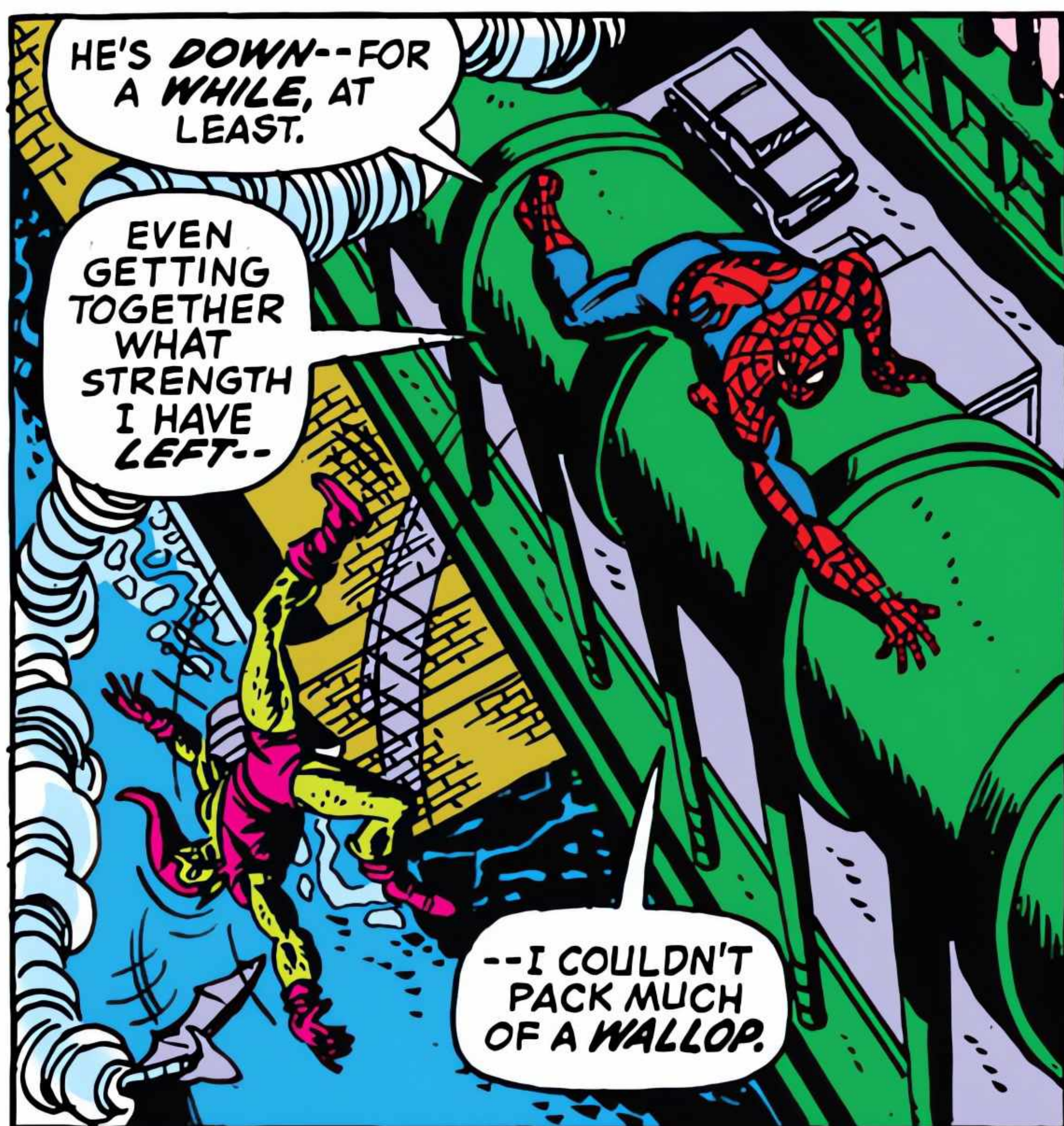


LAND
lga









WHAT IF...?



MANY A PERSON IS SHAPED BY THE MEMORY OF THEIR DARKEST DAY.

FOREVER ALTERED BY A MOMENT ETCHED DEEP IN THEIR VERY MARROW.

GWEN!



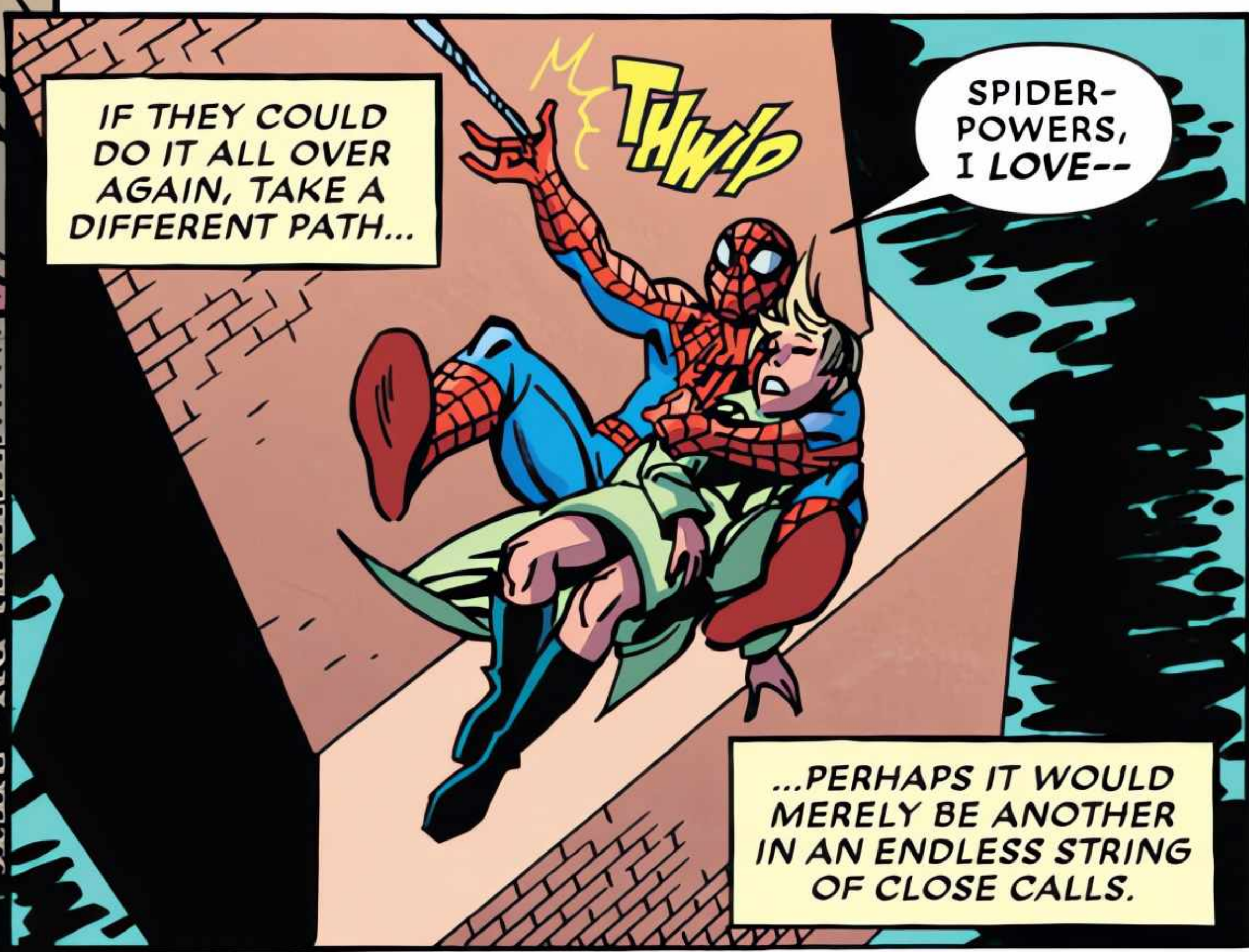
COME ON...

OFTEN, THEY ARE HAUNTED BY THE CHOICES THEY MADE.



THE ACTIONS THEY DID OR DIDN'T TAKE.

GOTCHA!



IF THEY COULD DO IT ALL OVER AGAIN, TAKE A DIFFERENT PATH...

SPIDER-POWERS, I LOVE--

...PERHAPS IT WOULD MERELY BE ANOTHER IN AN ENDLESS STRING OF CLOSE CALLS.



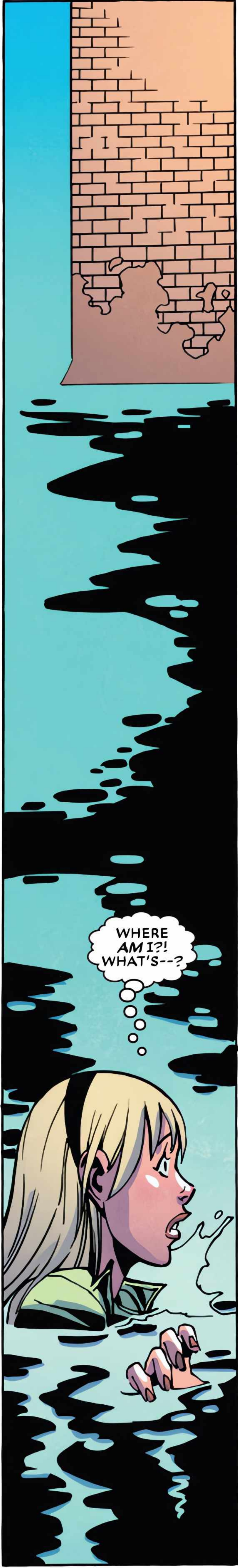
HAHAHAHA!

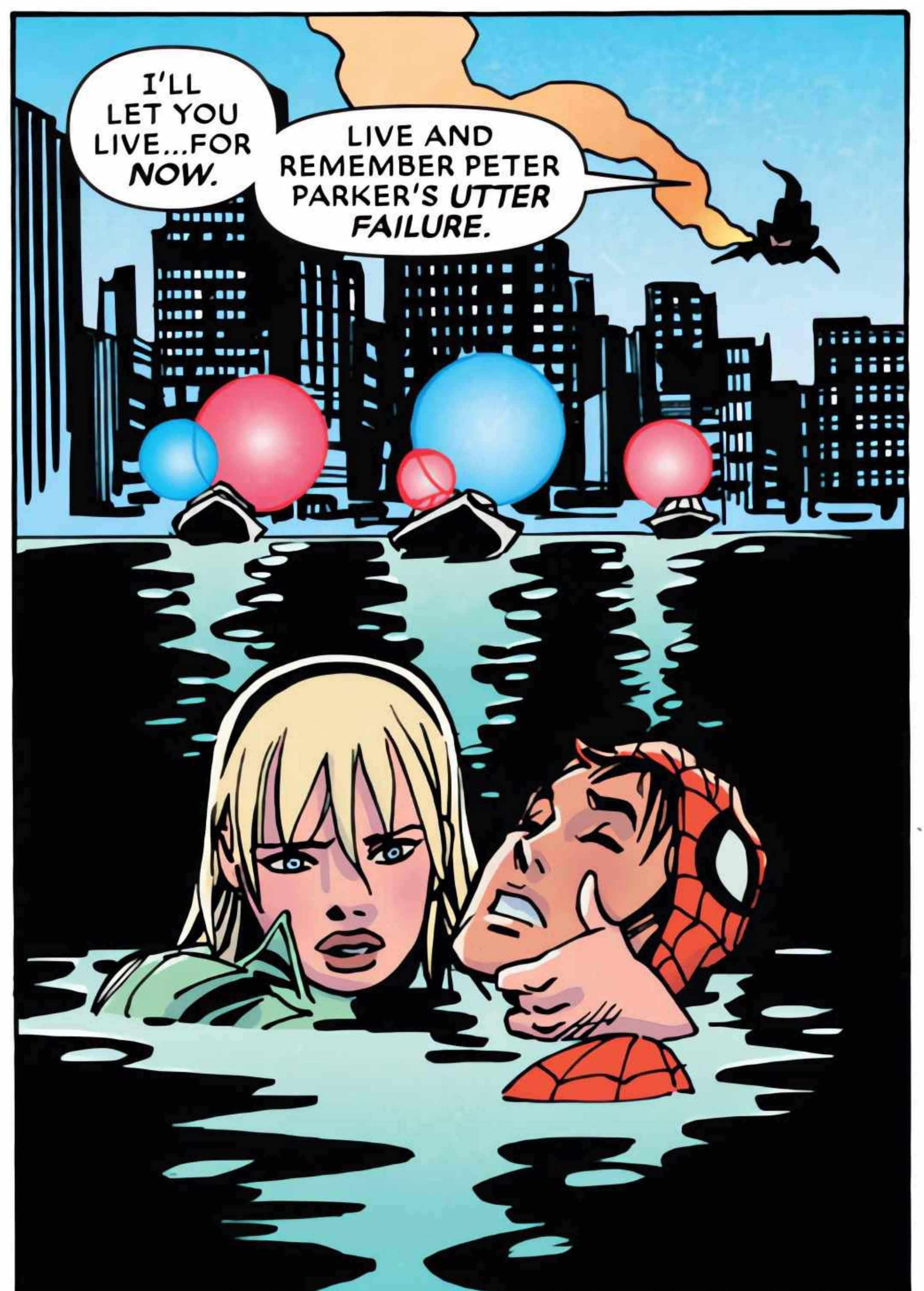
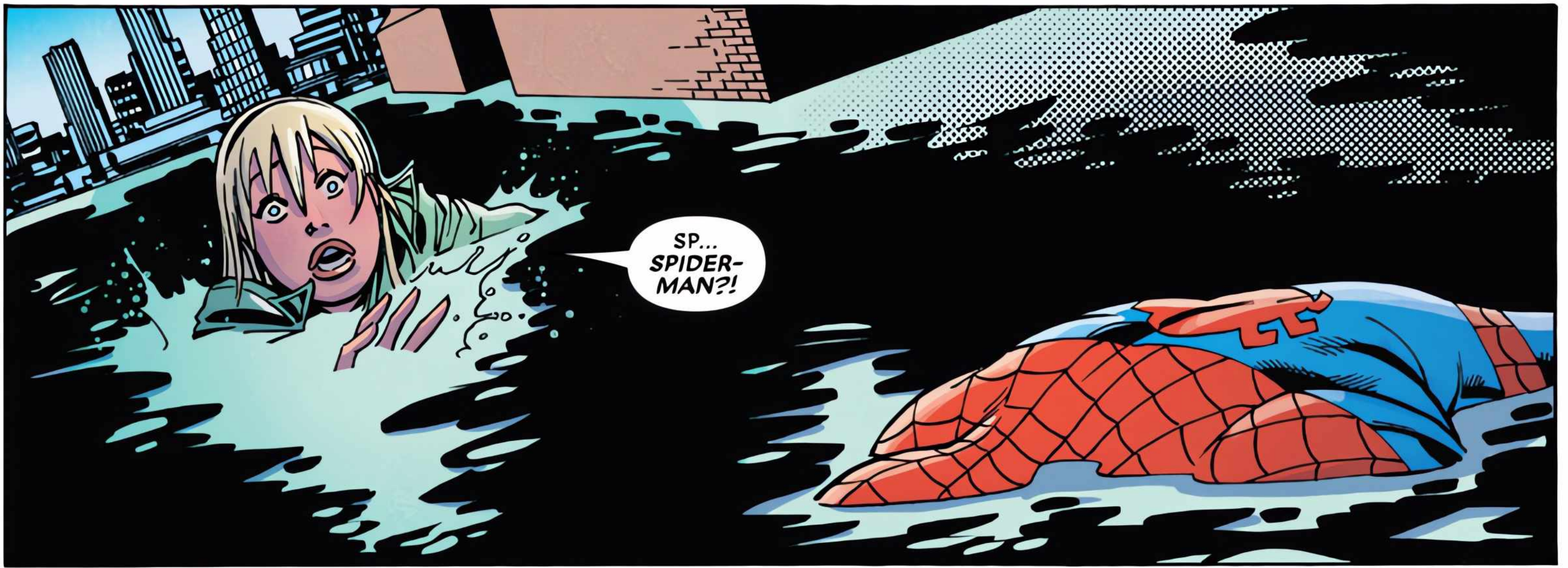
DID YOU REALLY THINK IT WOULD BE THAT EASY?!

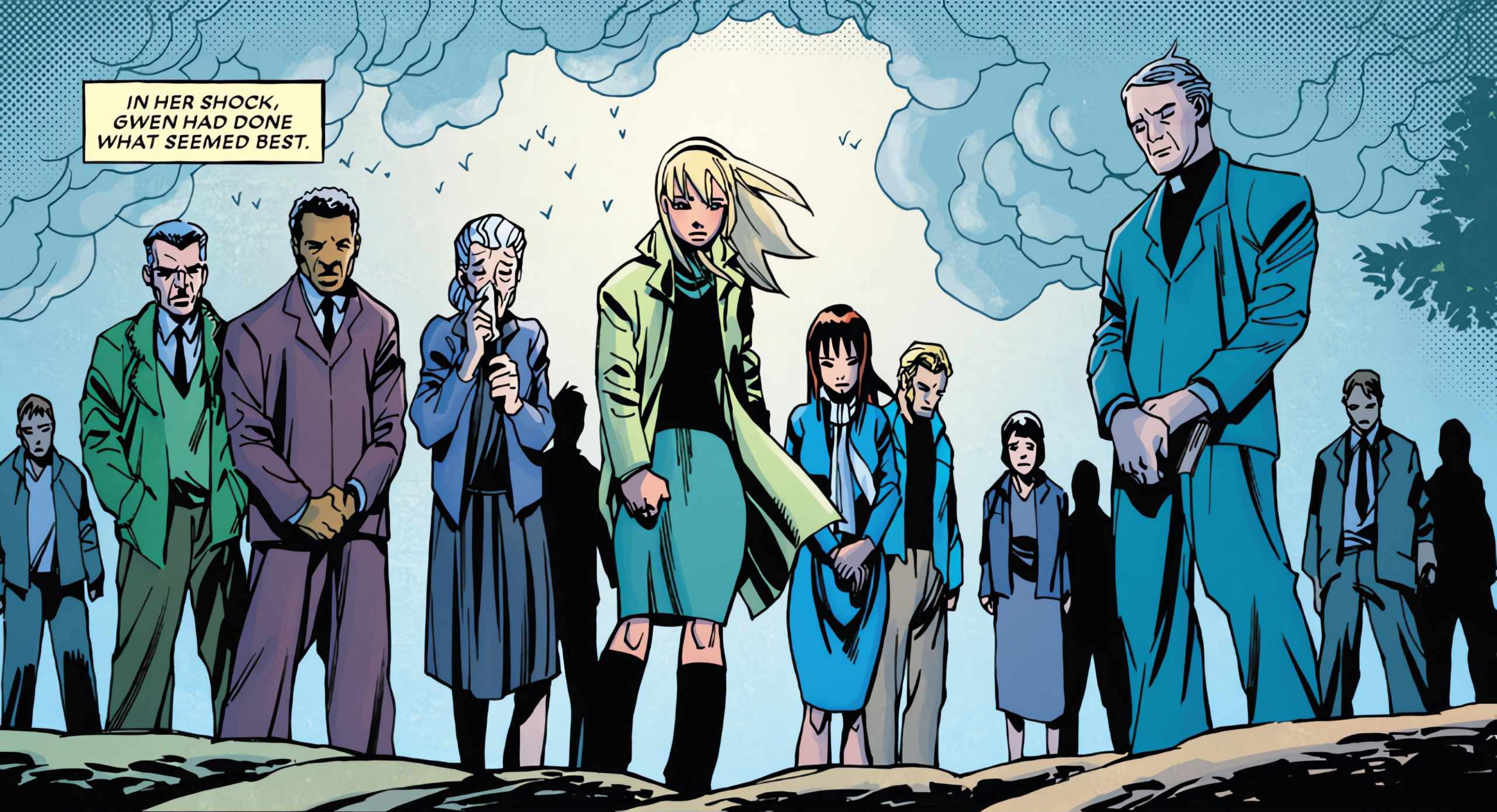


PERHAPS NOT.

GWEN--







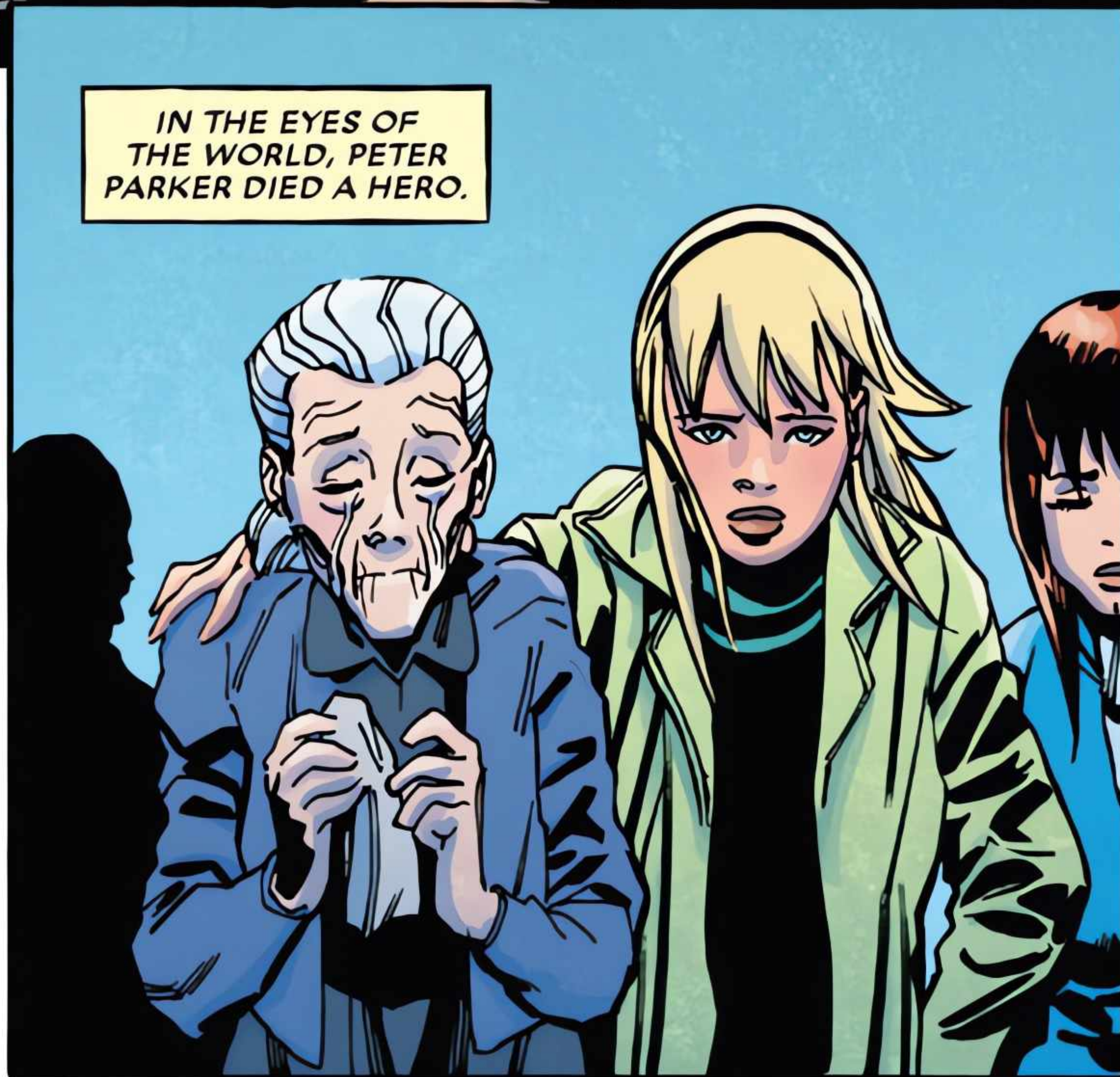
IN HER SHOCK,
GWEN HAD DONE
WHAT SEEMED BEST.



PROTECTED THE
MAN SHE LOVED.

THAT
MONSTER...
KIDNAPPED US.
AND THEN I...
I FELL...

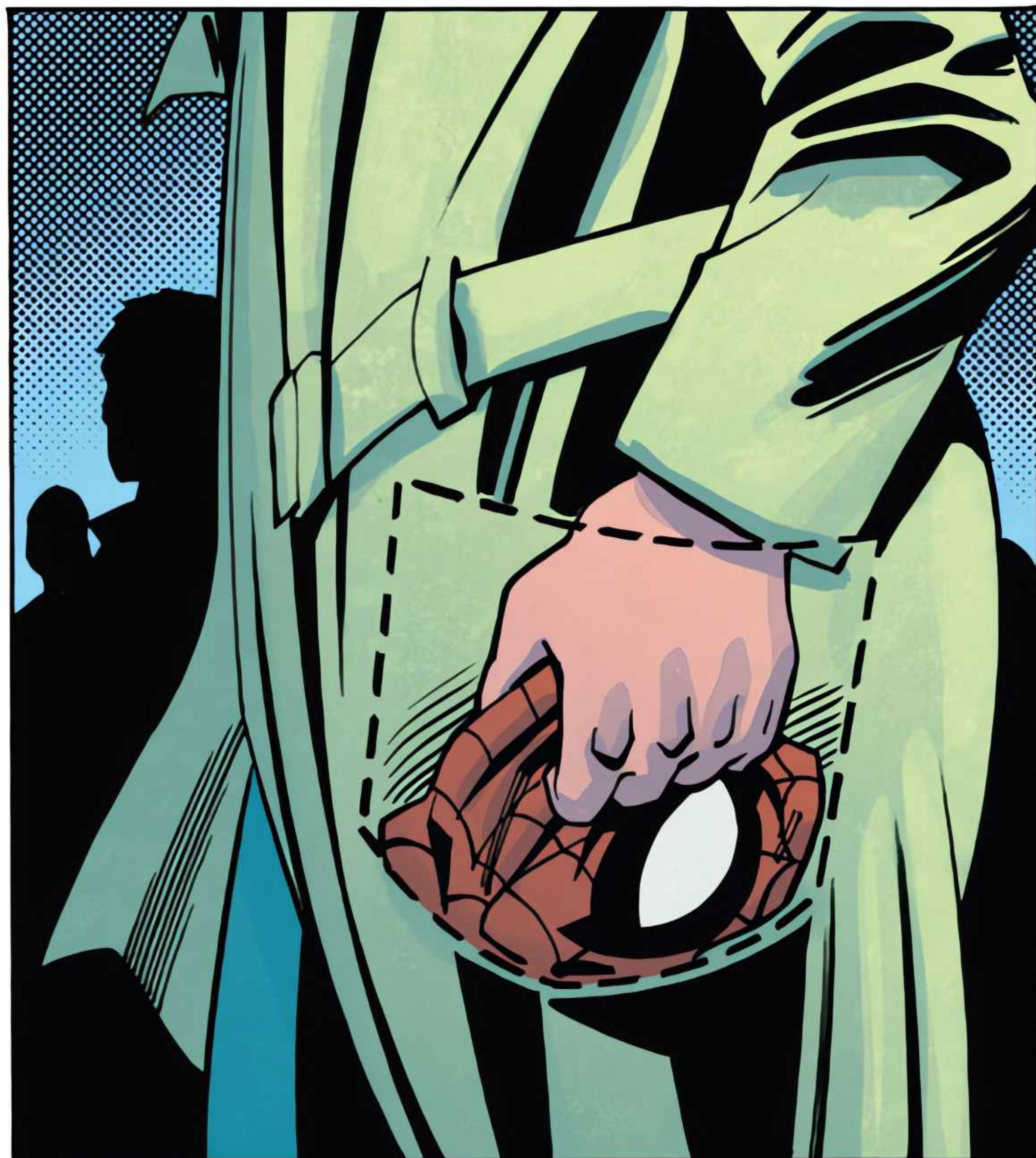
PETER...HE
JUMPED IN...
SAVED ME.



IN THE EYES OF
THE WORLD, PETER
PARKER DIED A HERO.



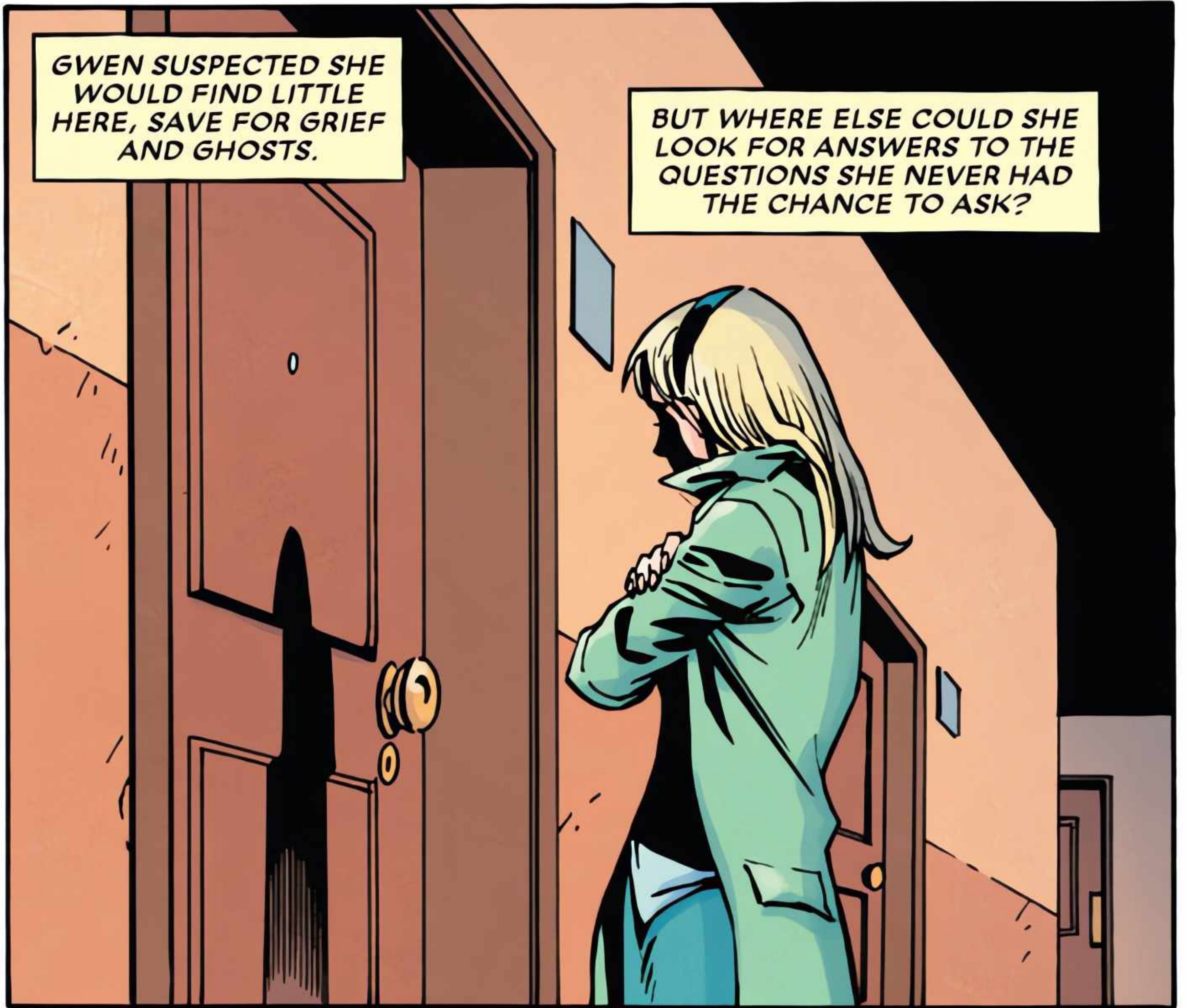
WHAT DID THE
DETAILS MATTER?





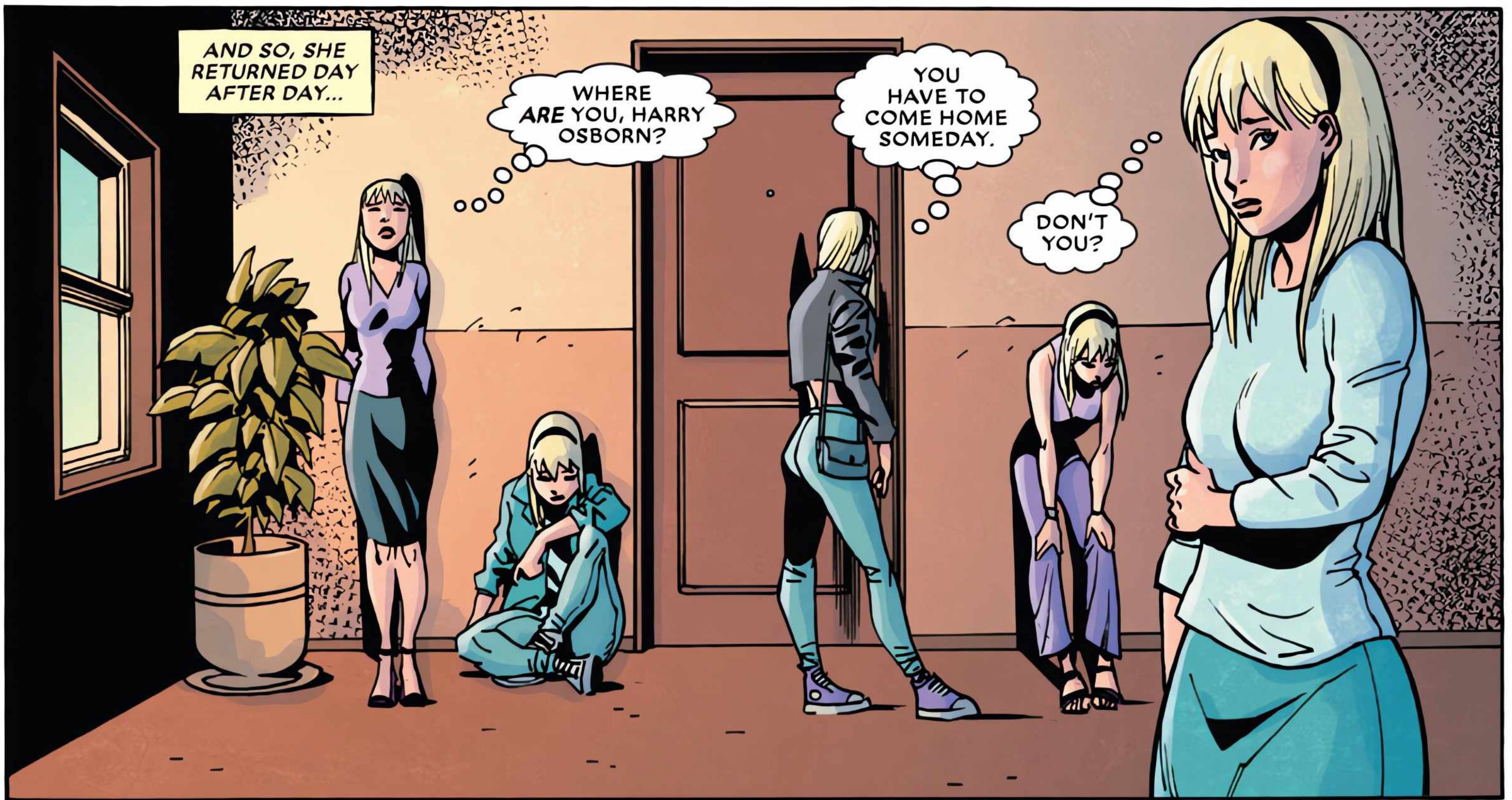


THE FORMER RESIDENCE
OF ONE PETER PARKER,
A.K.A. SPIDER-MAN.



GWEN SUSPECTED SHE
WOULD FIND LITTLE
HERE, SAVE FOR GRIEF
AND GHOSTS.

BUT WHERE ELSE COULD SHE
LOOK FOR ANSWERS TO THE
QUESTIONS SHE NEVER HAD
THE CHANCE TO ASK?

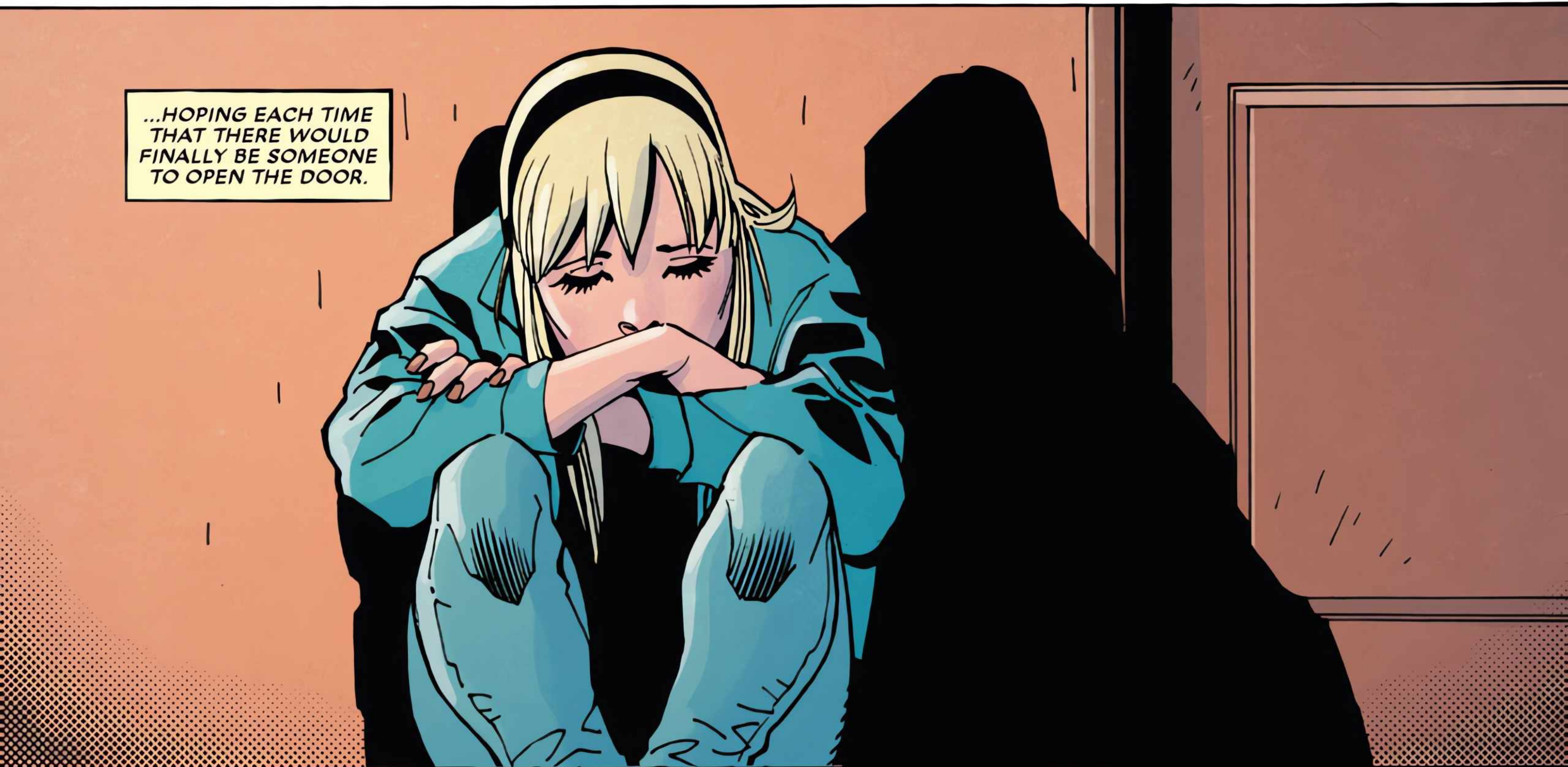


AND SO, SHE
RETURNED DAY
AFTER DAY...

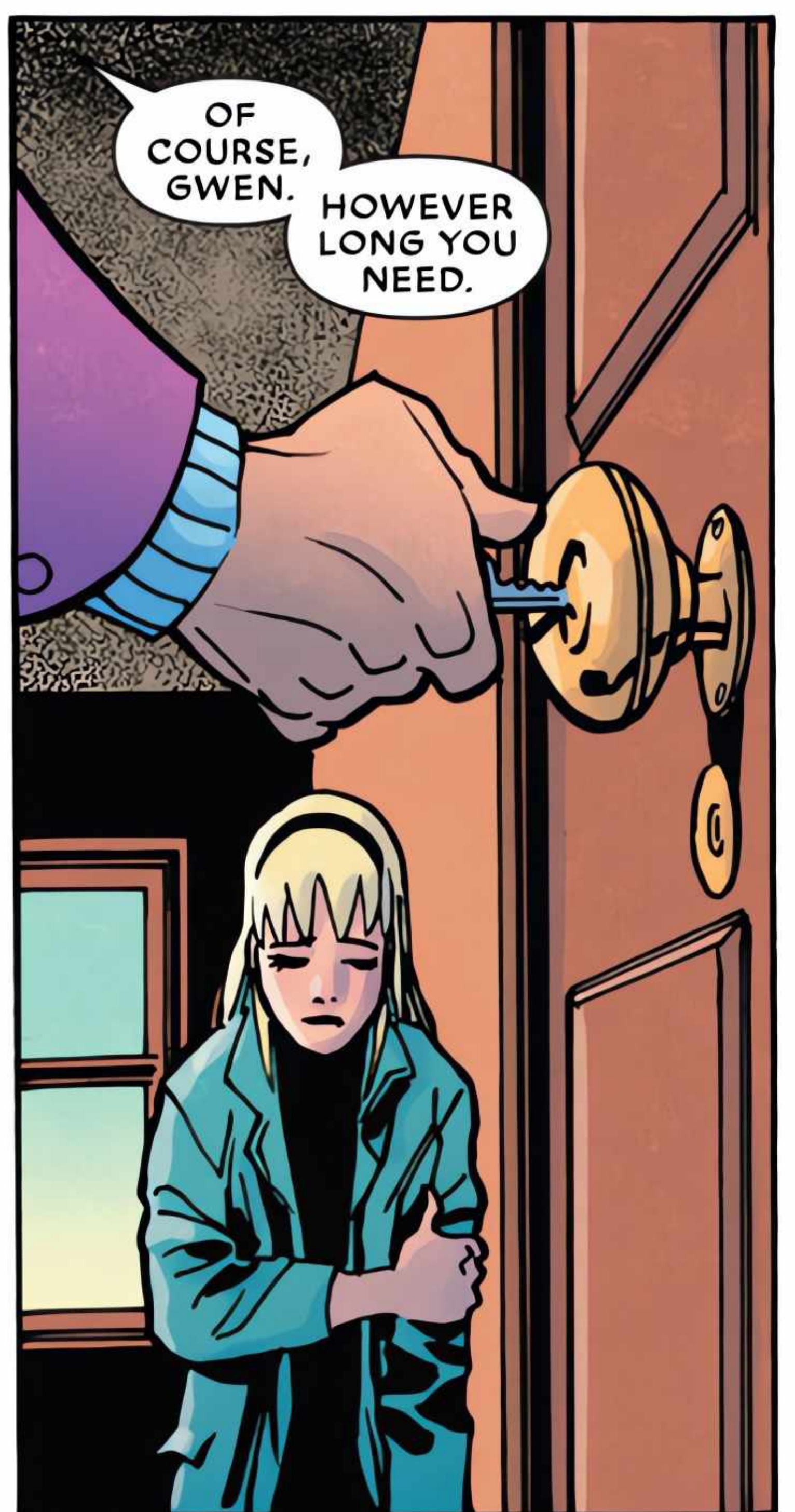
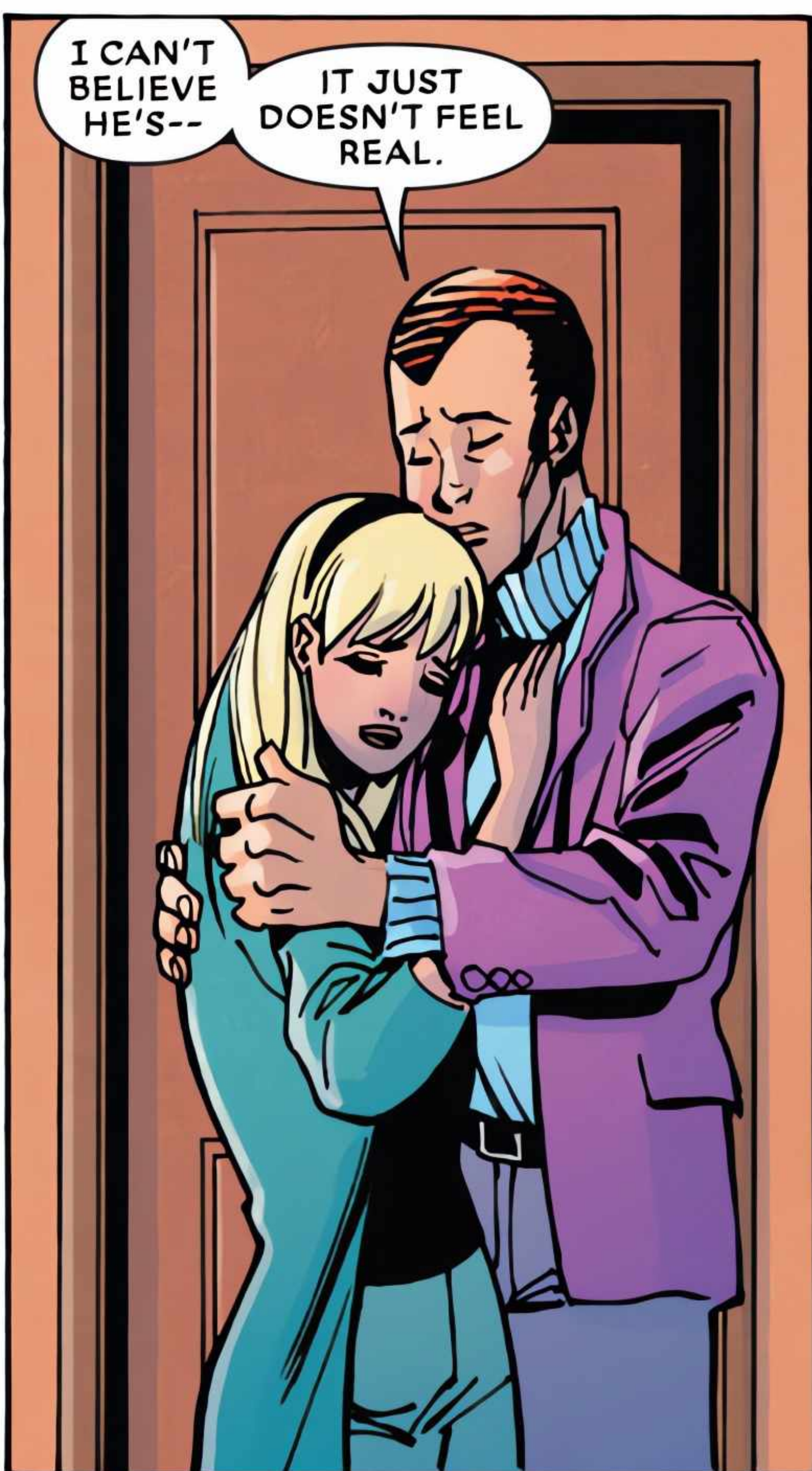
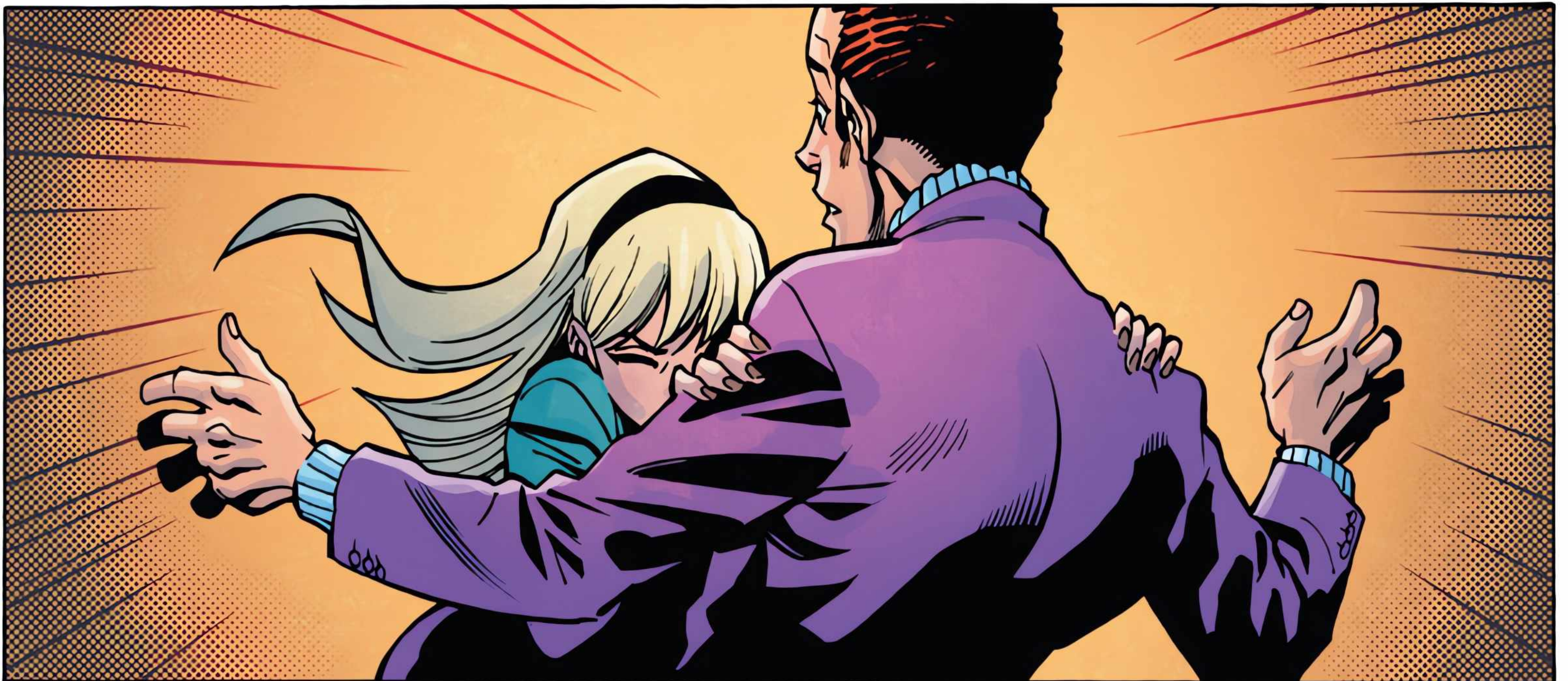
WHERE
ARE YOU, HARRY
OSBORN?

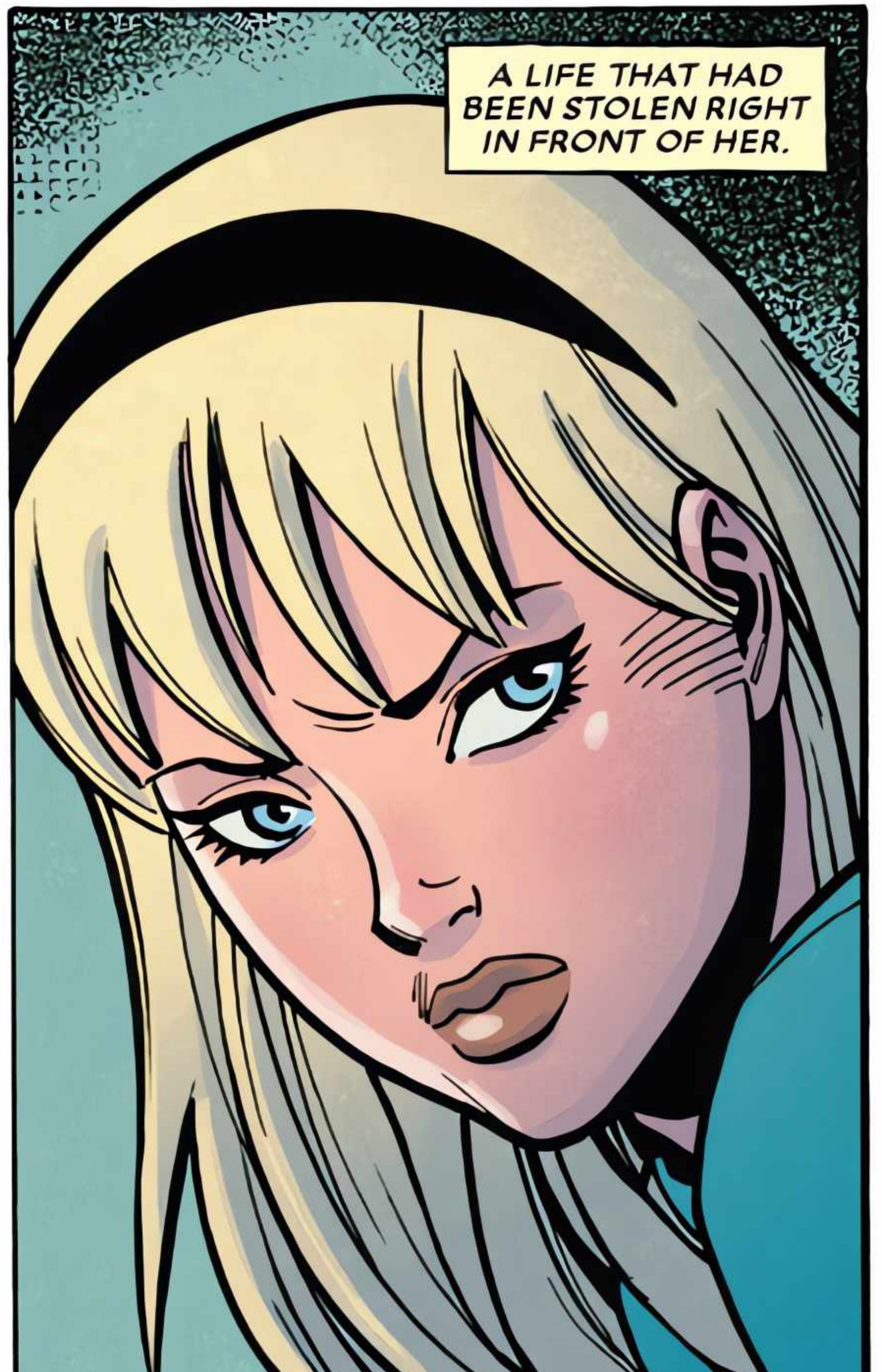
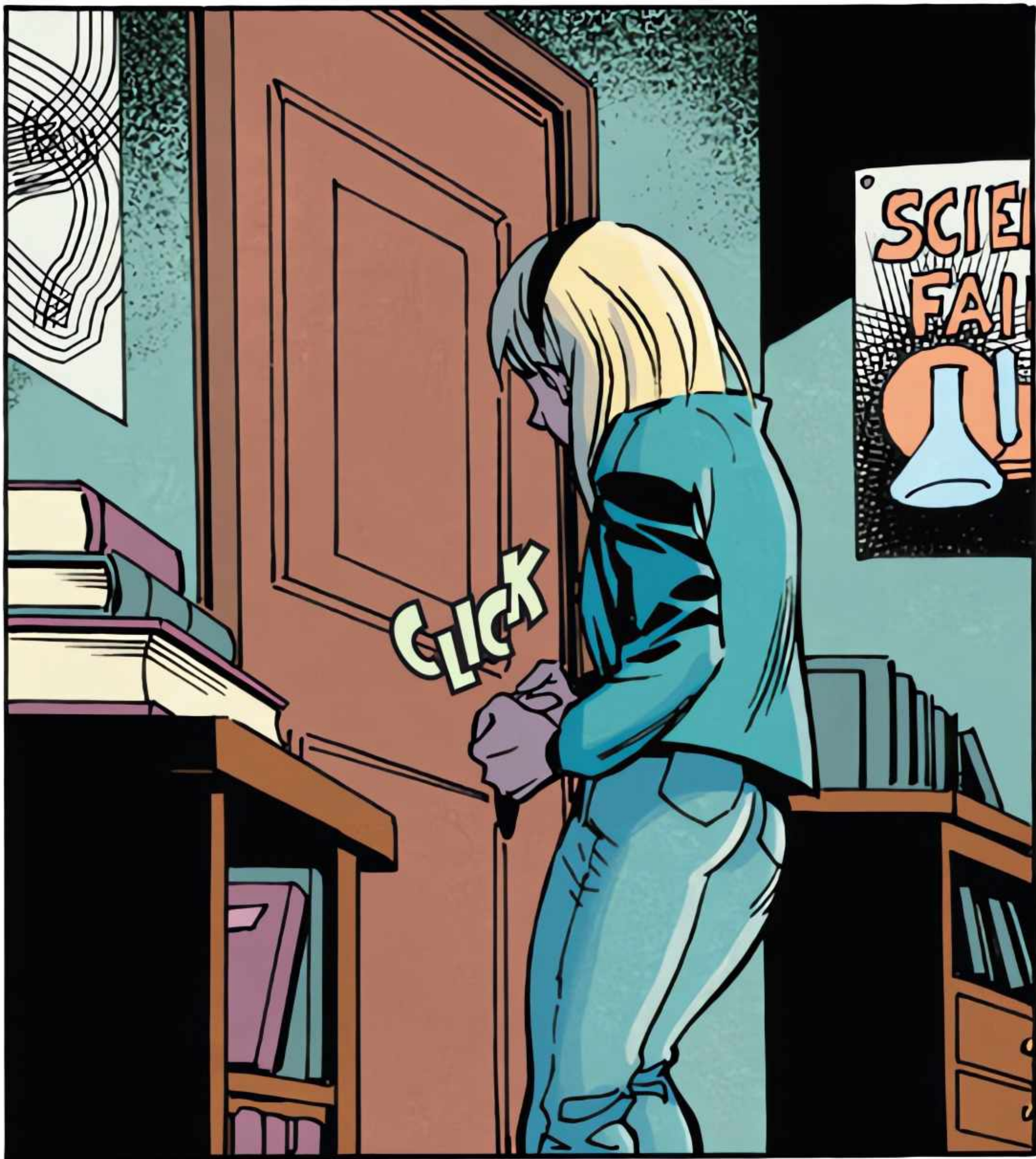
YOU
HAVE TO
COME HOME
SOMEDAY.

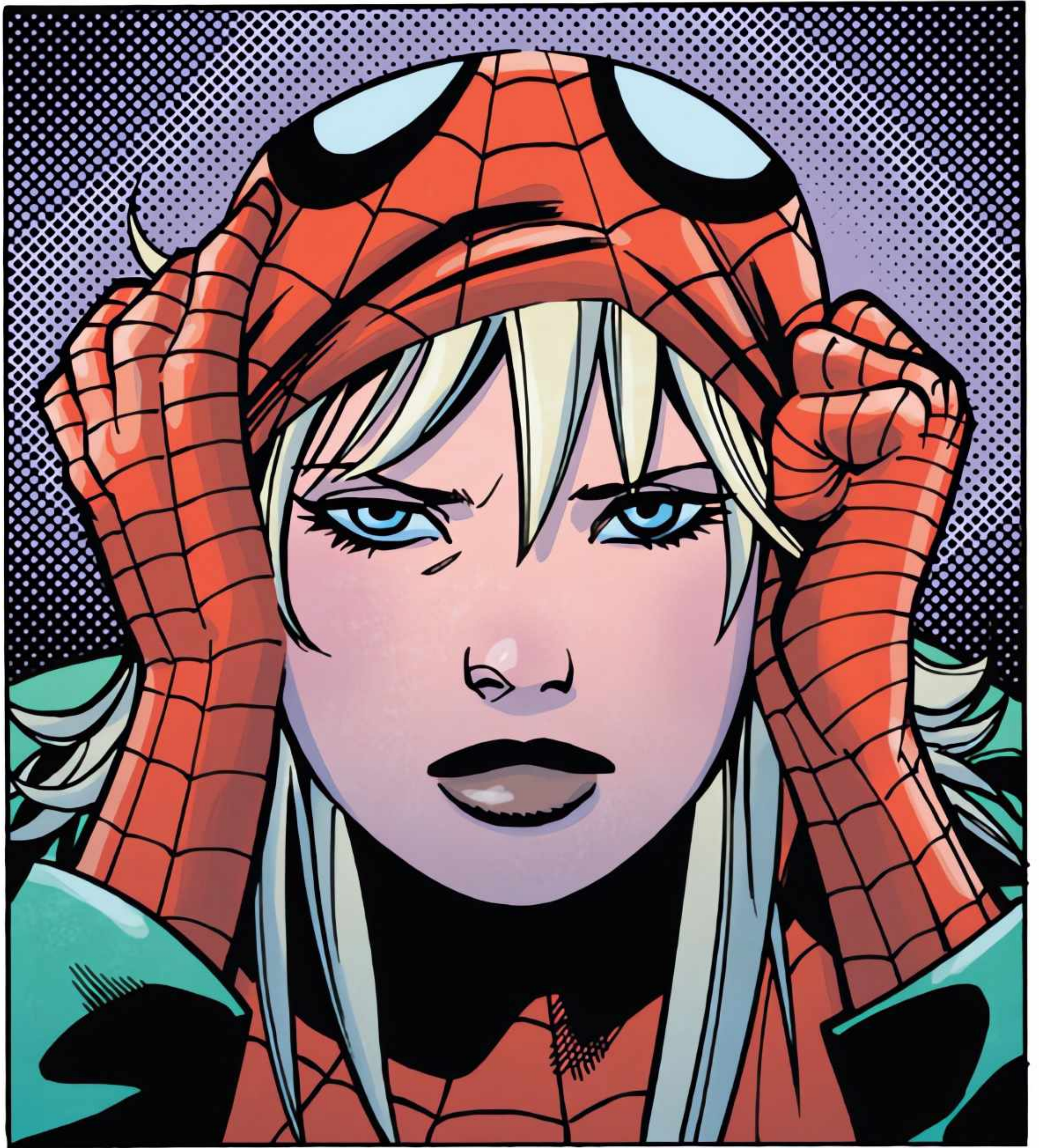
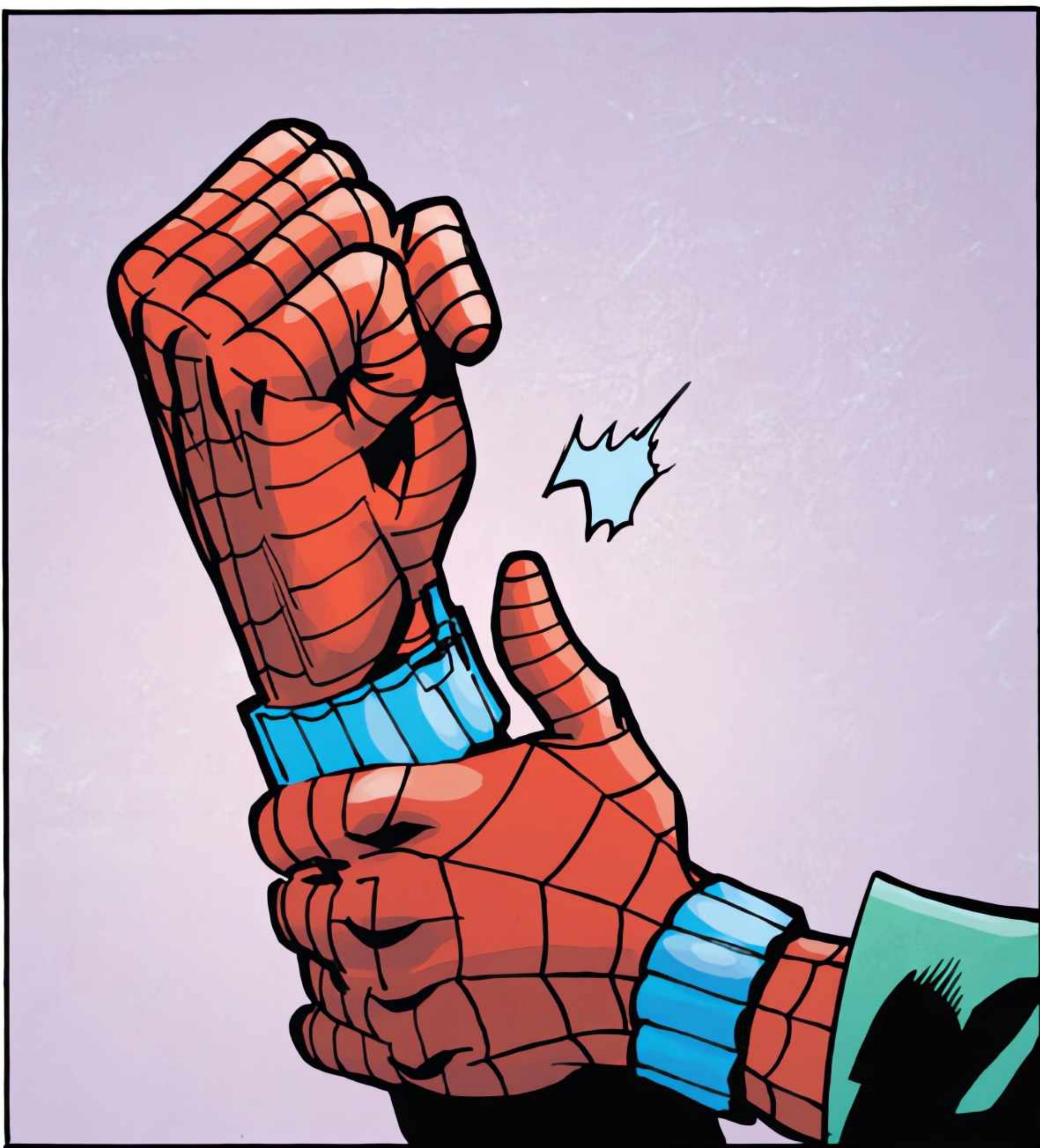
DON'T
YOU?



...HOPING EACH TIME
THAT THERE WOULD
FINALLY BE SOMEONE
TO OPEN THE DOOR.









OKAY,
GWEN...

...NOW
WHAT?

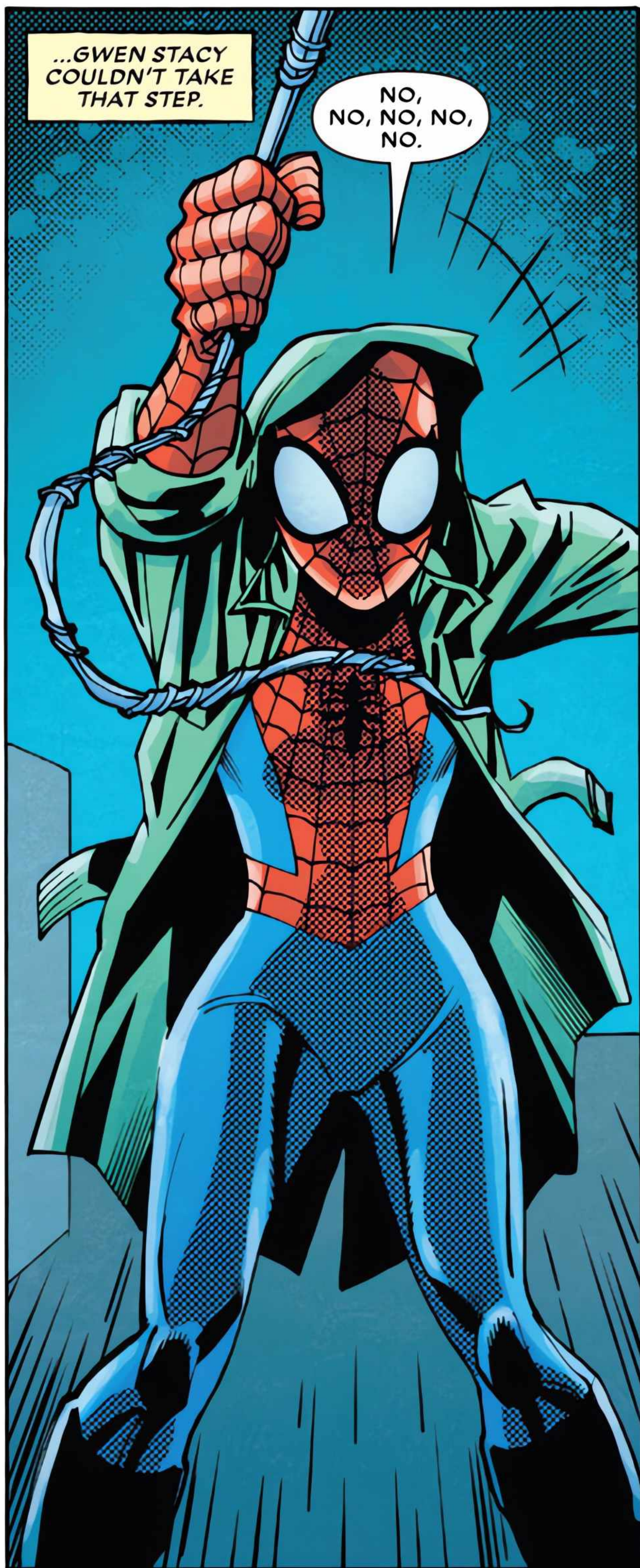


AS THE COLD WIND WHIPPED
AROUND HER, ONE TRUTH RANG
CRYSTAL CLEAR IN THAT MOMENT...



...GWEN STACY
COULDN'T TAKE
THAT STEP.

NO,
NO, NO, NO,
NO.



SHE POSSESSED
NO POWERS.
NO TRAINING.

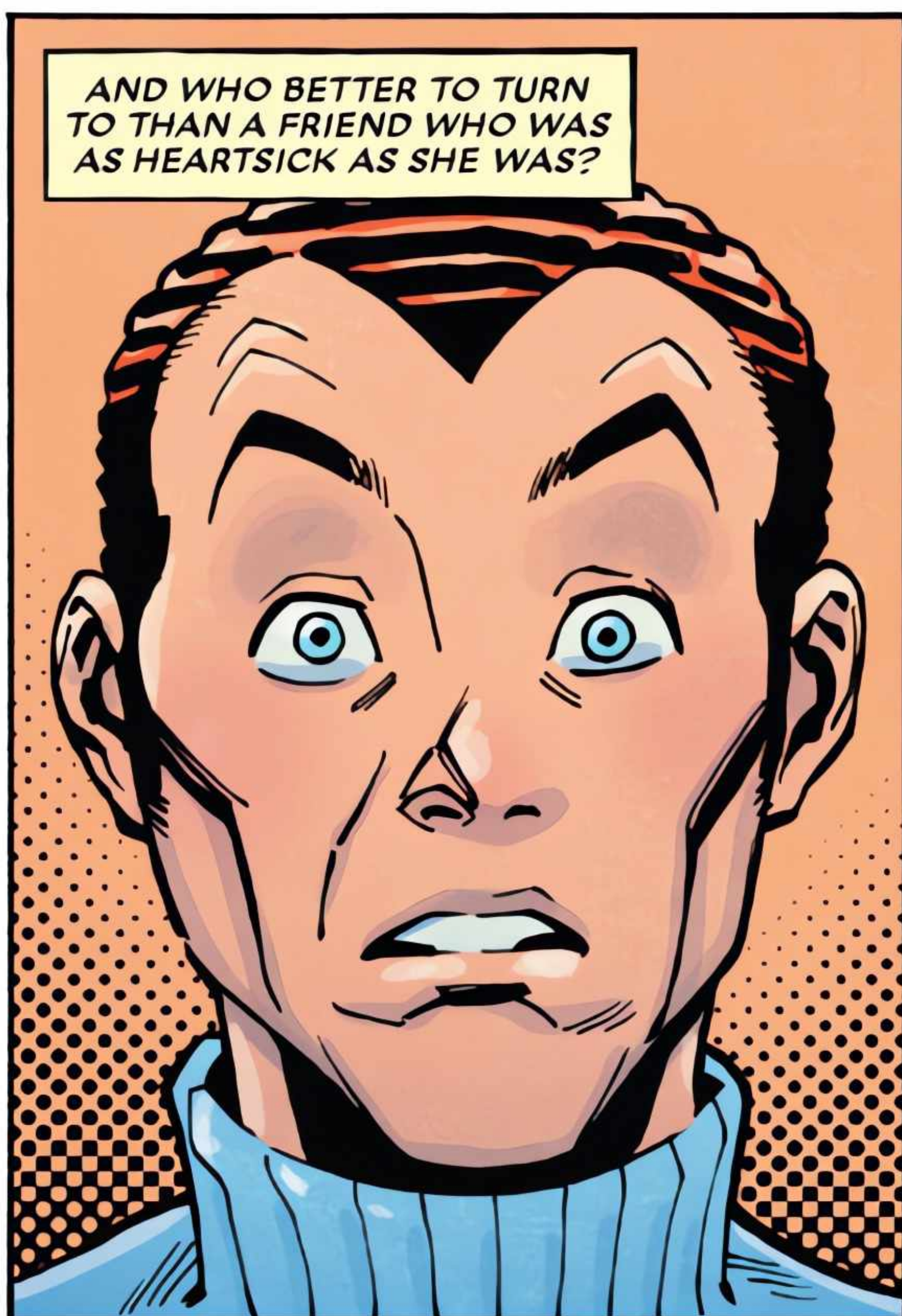
JUST WHAT THE
BOY SHE LOVED
HAD LEFT BEHIND.

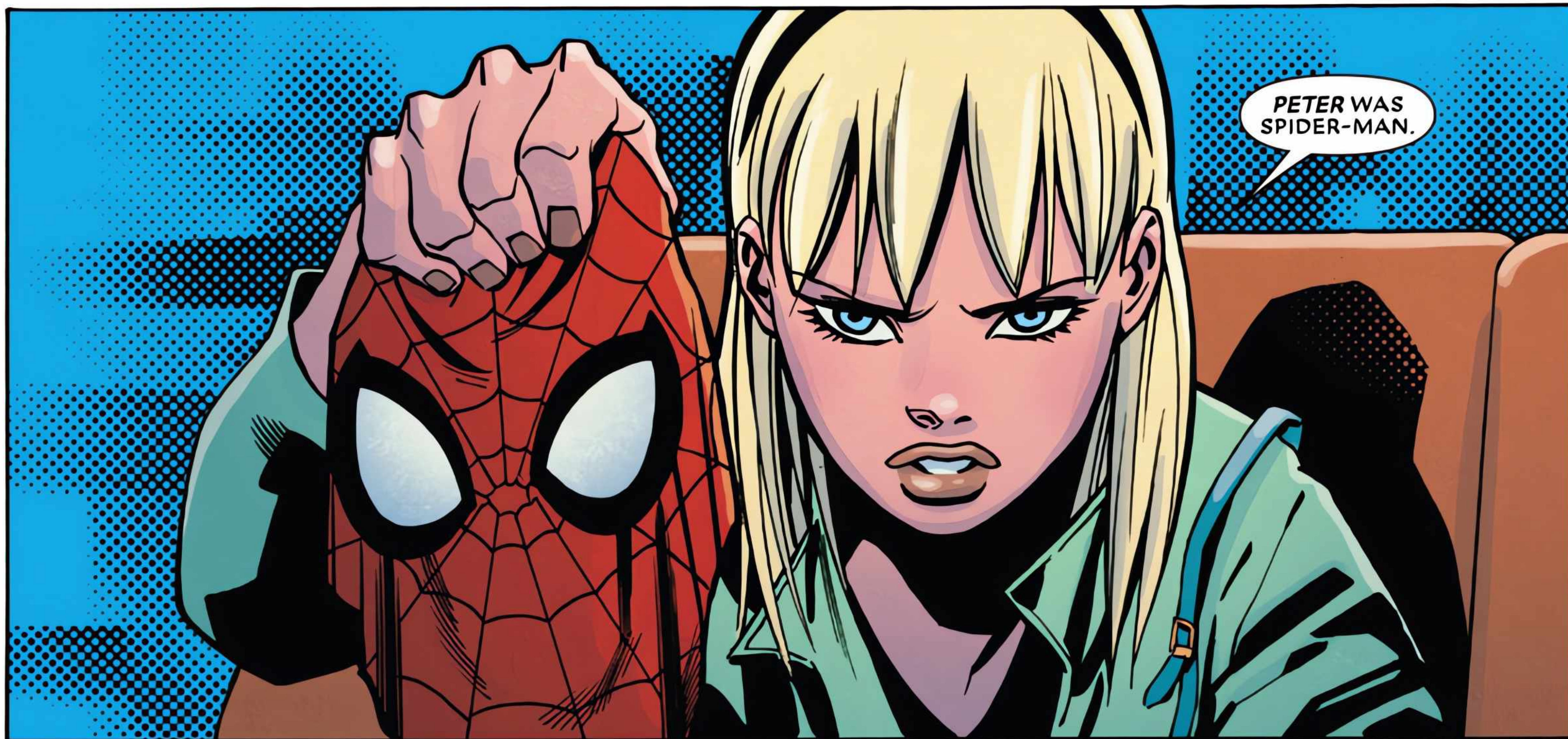


AND A COSTUME
WOULDN'T BE
ENOUGH. NOT FOR
WHAT SHE WANTED.

SHE
NEEDED
HELP.



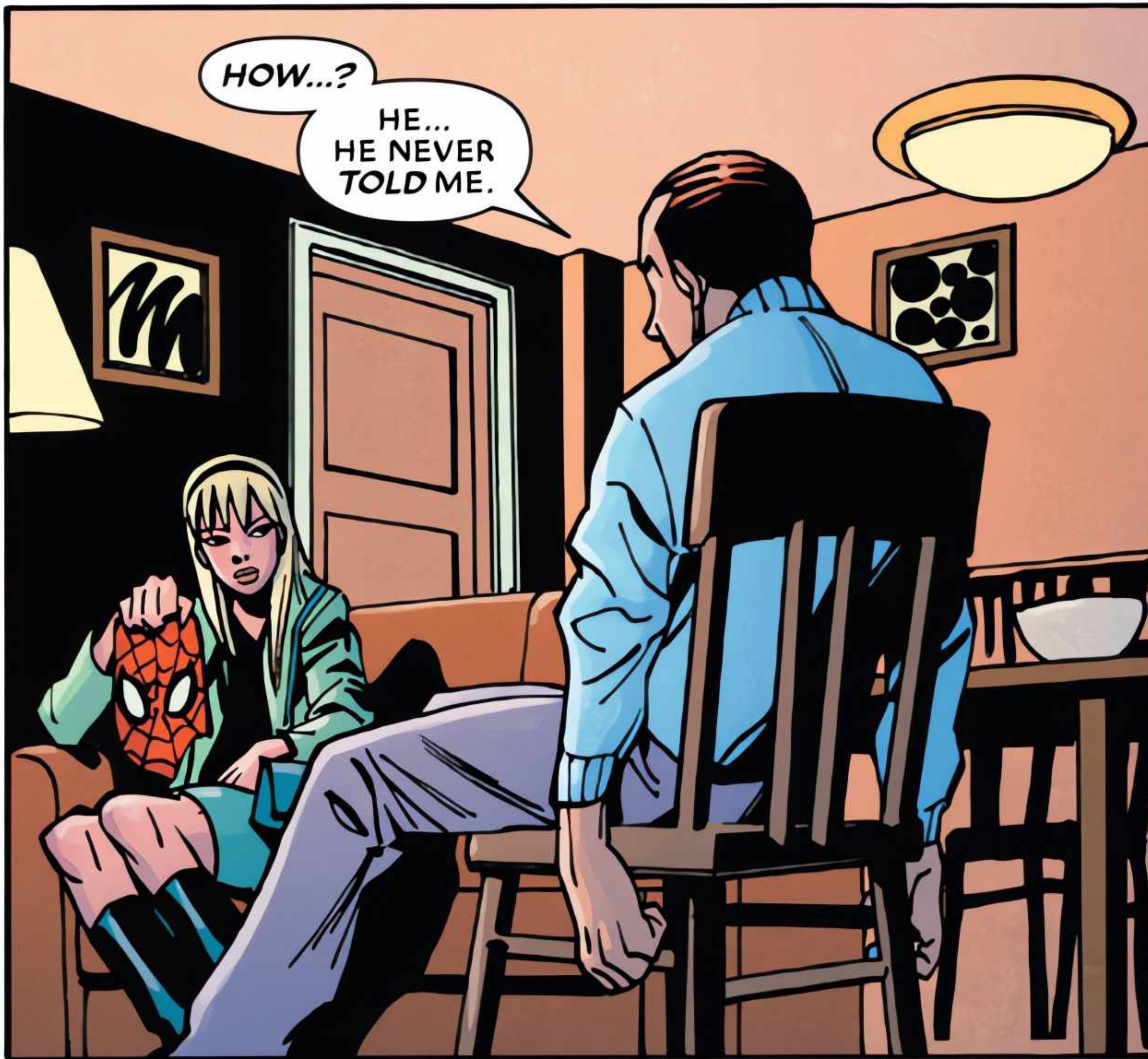




PETER WAS SPIDER-MAN.

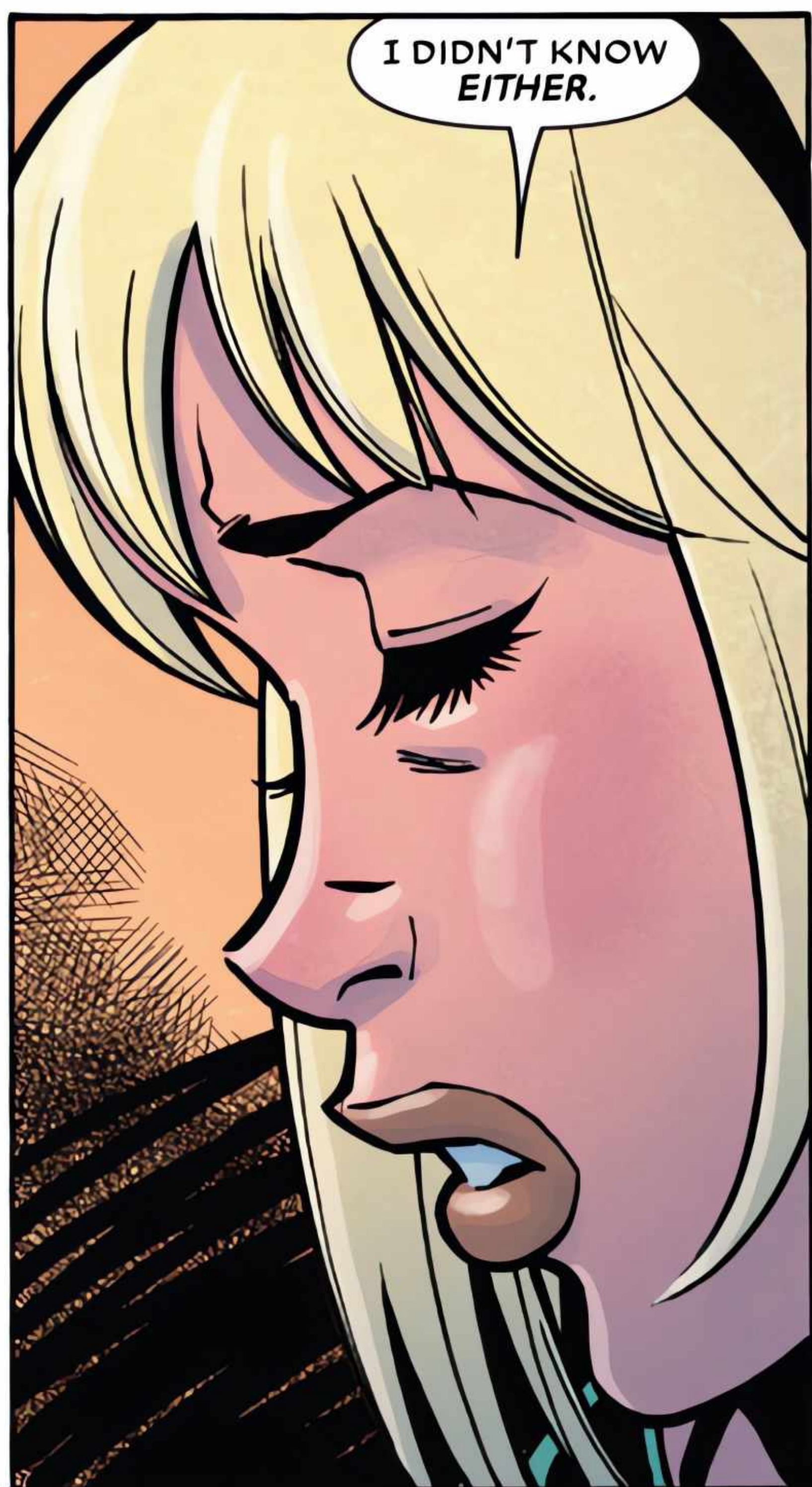


...



HOW...?

HE...
HE NEVER
TOLD ME.



I DIDN'T KNOW
EITHER.



NOT
UNTIL--



BUT HE
KNEW. THE
GOBLIN.



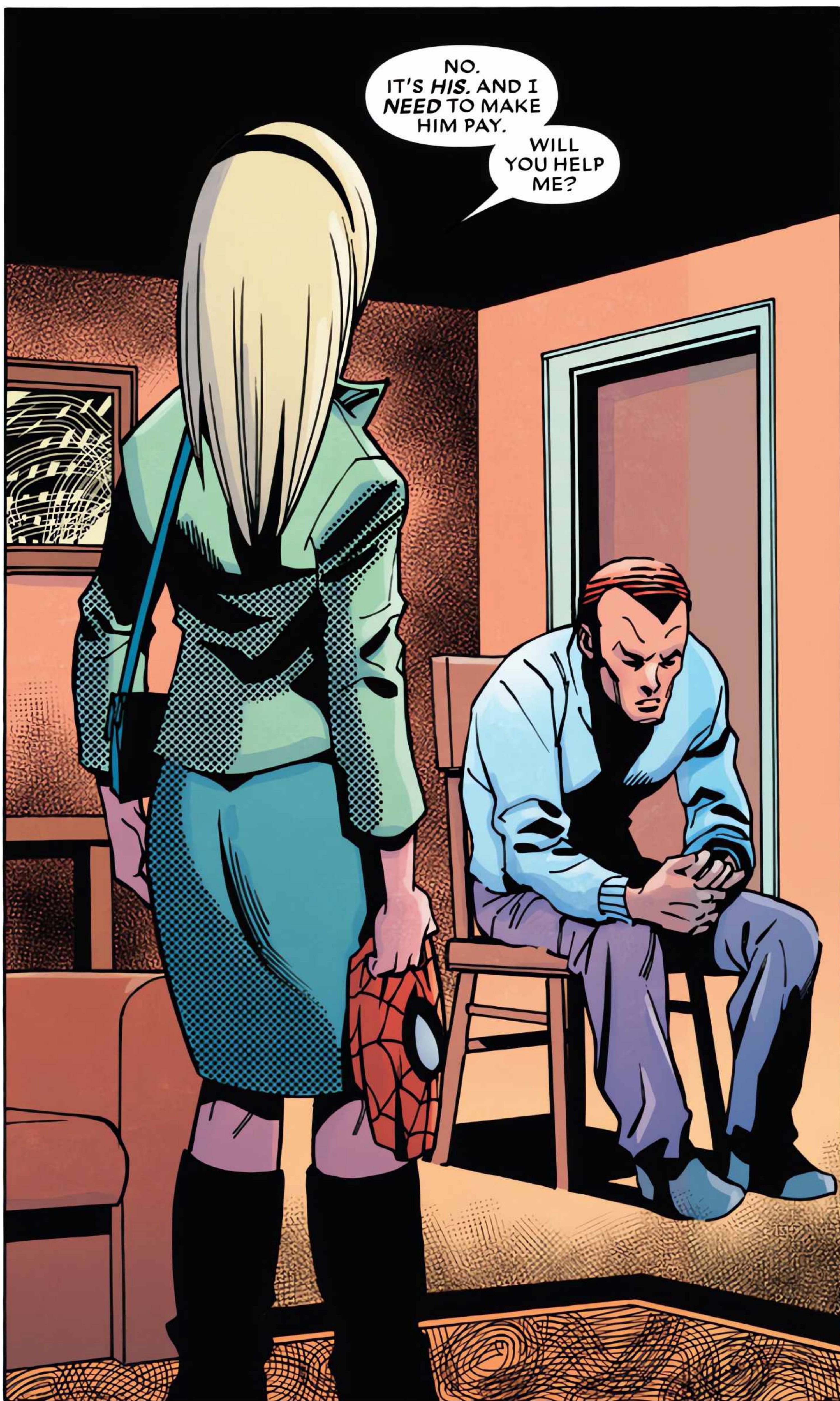
HE *KNEW*
WHO PETER WAS.
HE *KNEW* HE COULD
USE *ME* TO HURT
PETER.

AND THAT'S
EXACTLY WHAT
HE DID.



YOU
CAN'T BLAME
YOURSELF FOR
WHAT HAPPENED,
GWEN.

IT'S
NOT *YOUR*
FAULT.

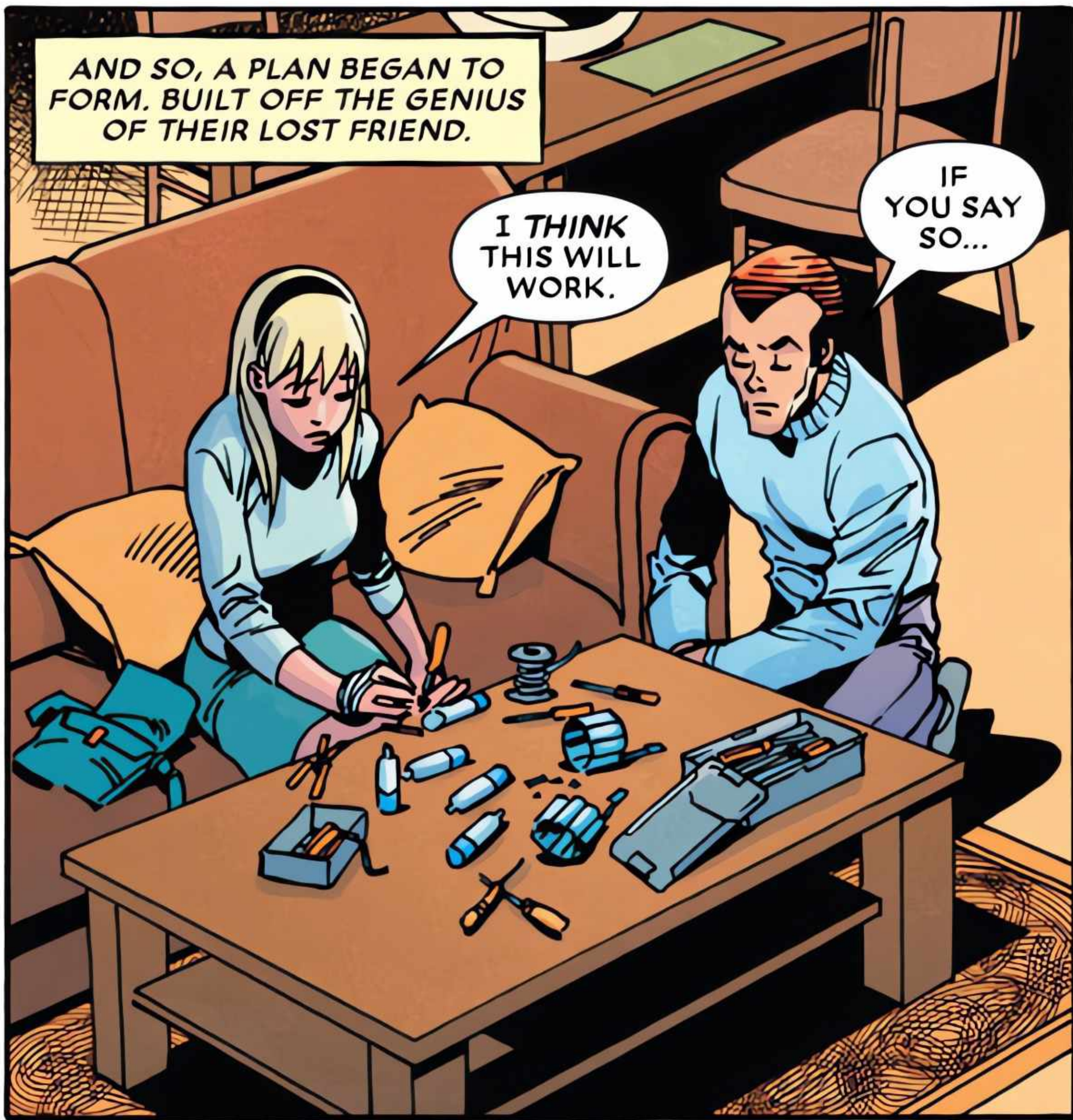


NO.
IT'S *HIS*. AND I
NEED TO MAKE
HIM PAY.

WILL
YOU HELP
ME?



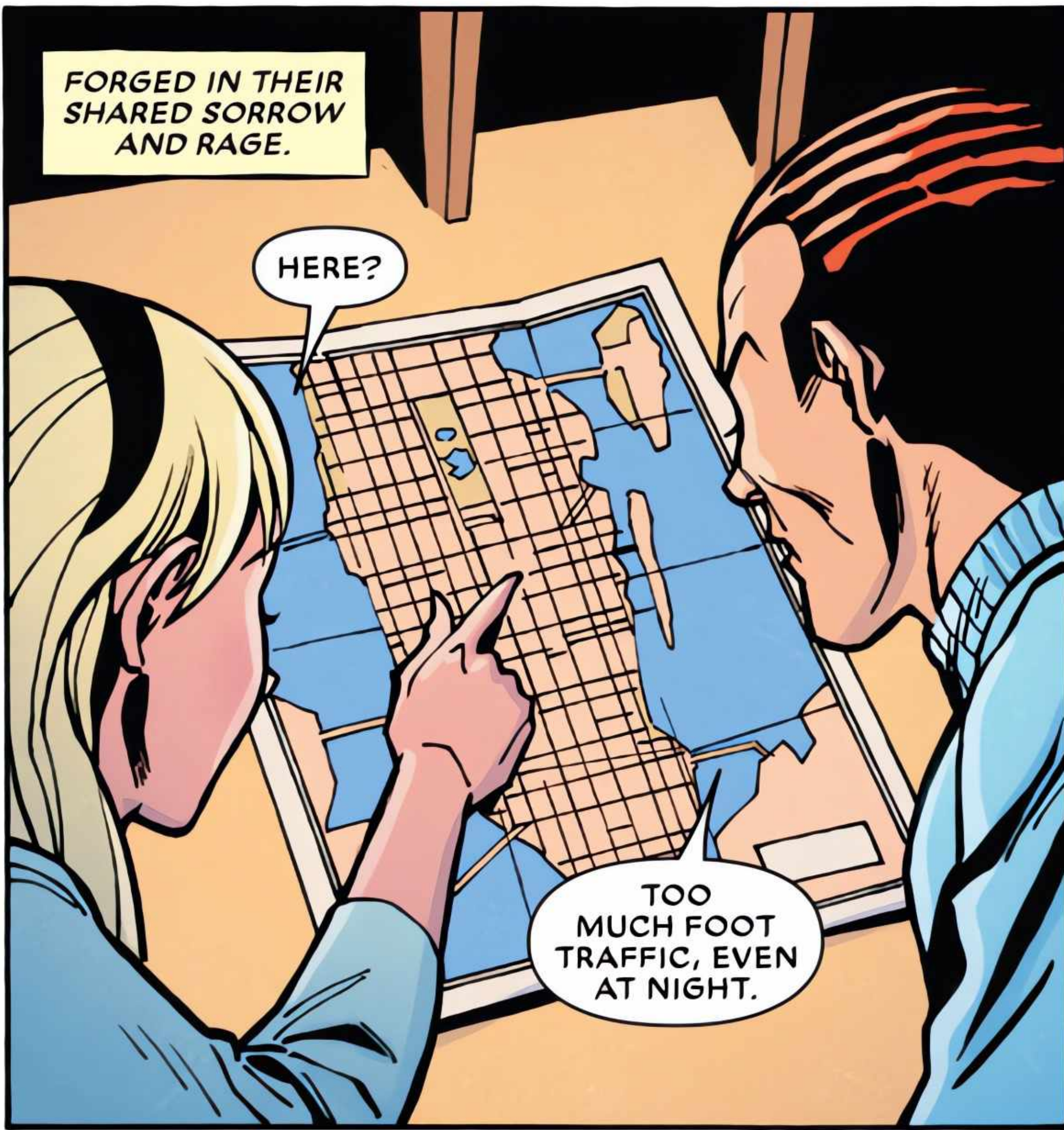
...WHAT
DO YOU HAVE
IN MIND?



AND SO, A PLAN BEGAN TO FORM. BUILT OFF THE GENIUS OF THEIR LOST FRIEND.

I THINK THIS WILL WORK.

IF YOU SAY SO...



FORGED IN THEIR SHARED SORROW AND RAGE.

HERE?

TOO MUCH FOOT TRAFFIC, EVEN AT NIGHT.



THE THEATER DEPARTMENT WAS ABOUT TO THROW THIS STUFF OUT. THEY WON'T MISS IT.

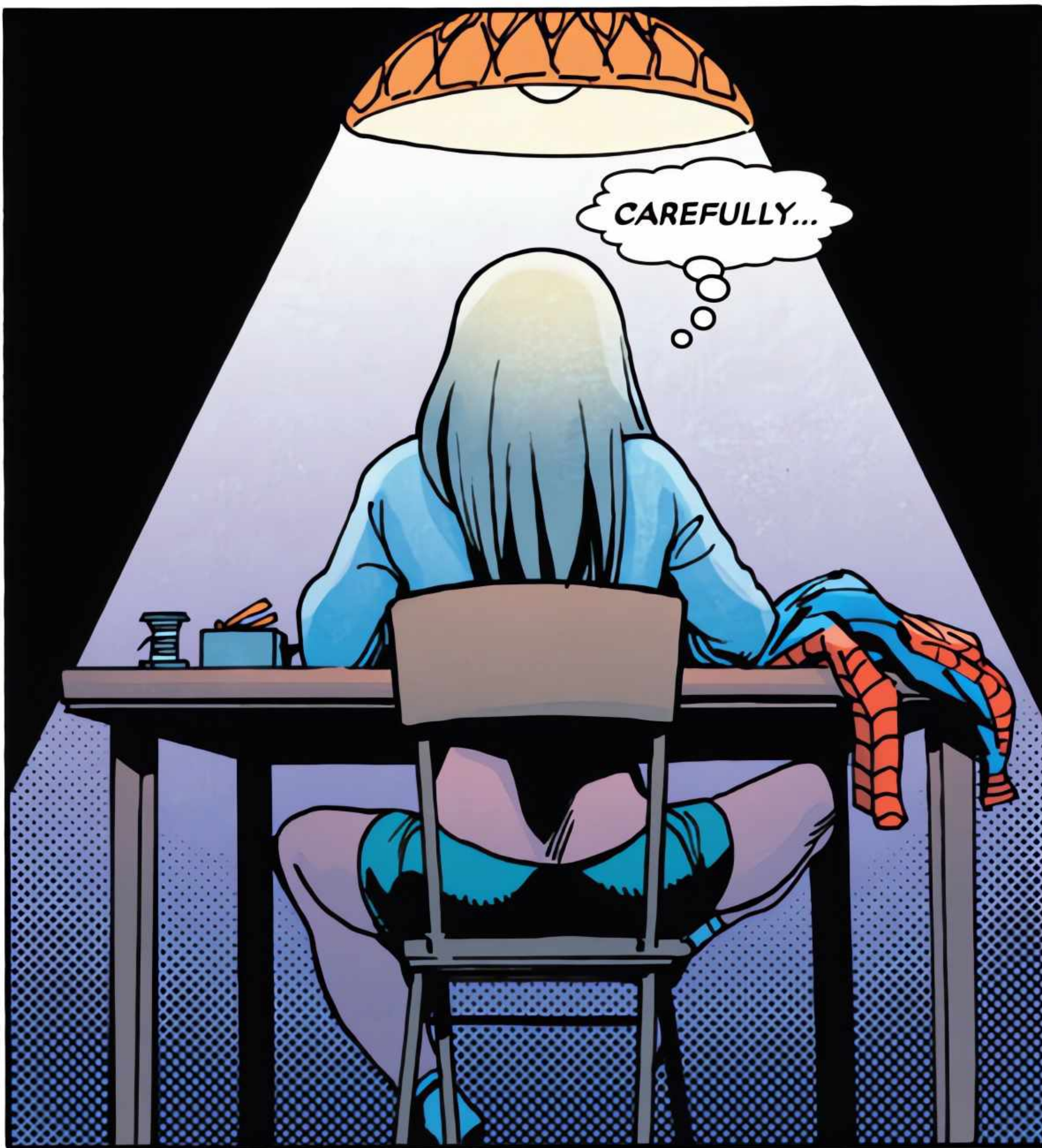
THANKS, MJ. YOU'RE A LIFESAVER.



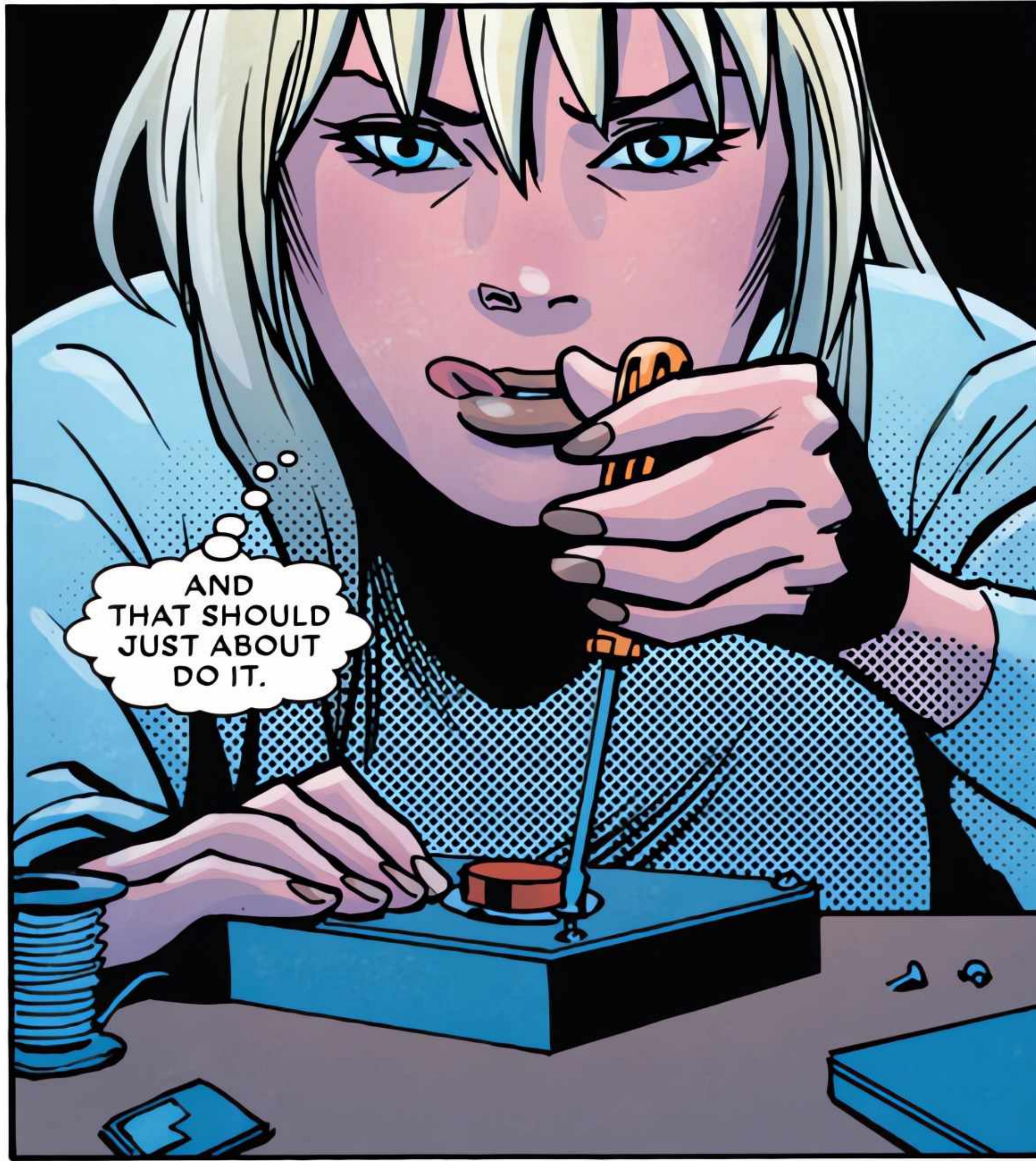
YOU KNOW, IF YOU'RE UP FOR A COSTUME PARTY, I HOPE YOU'LL BE UP FOR THAT COFFEE DATE SOON.

I'VE BEEN WORRIED ABOUT YOU, GWEN.

I KNOW. SOON. I PROMISE.



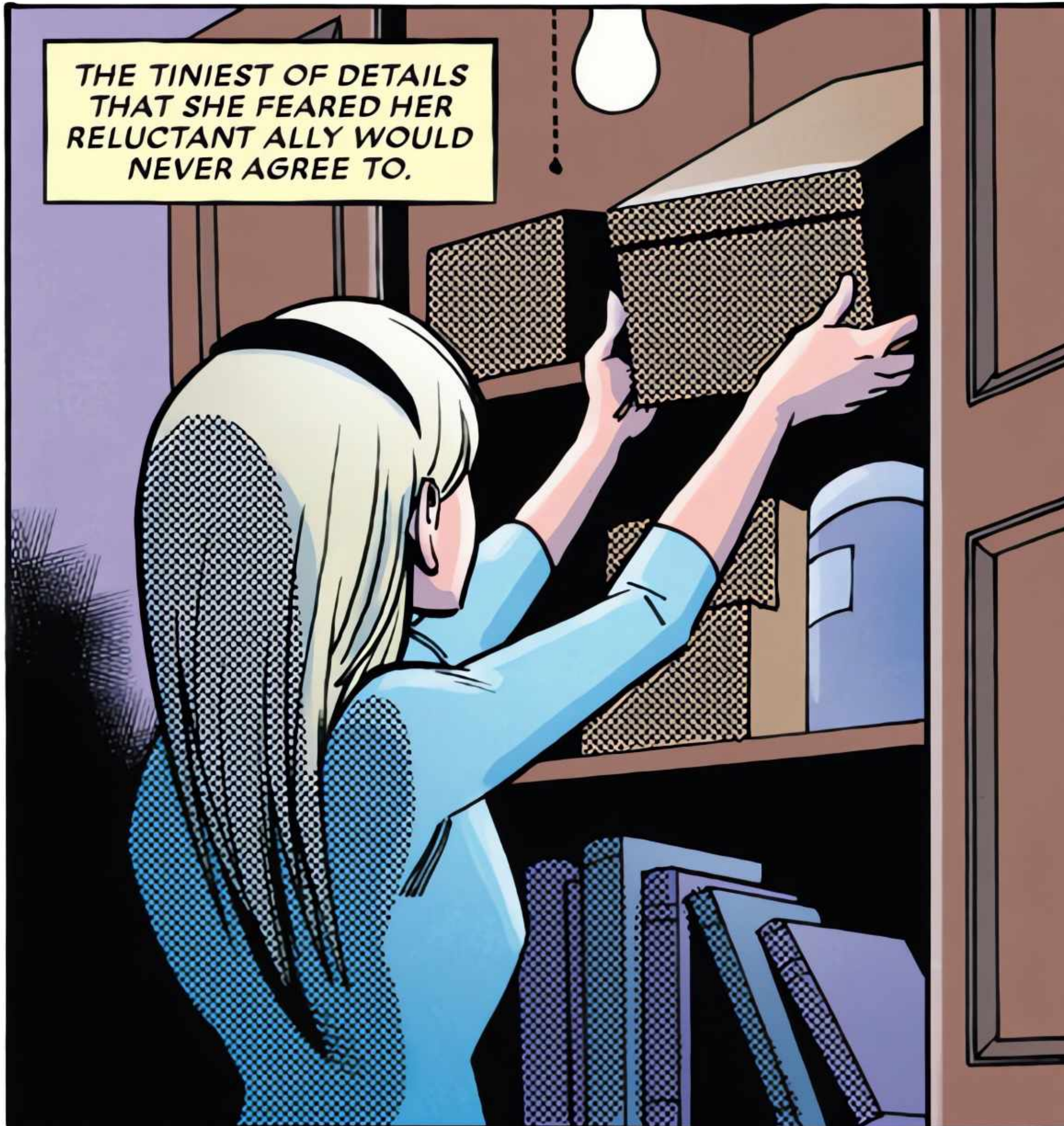
CAREFULLY...



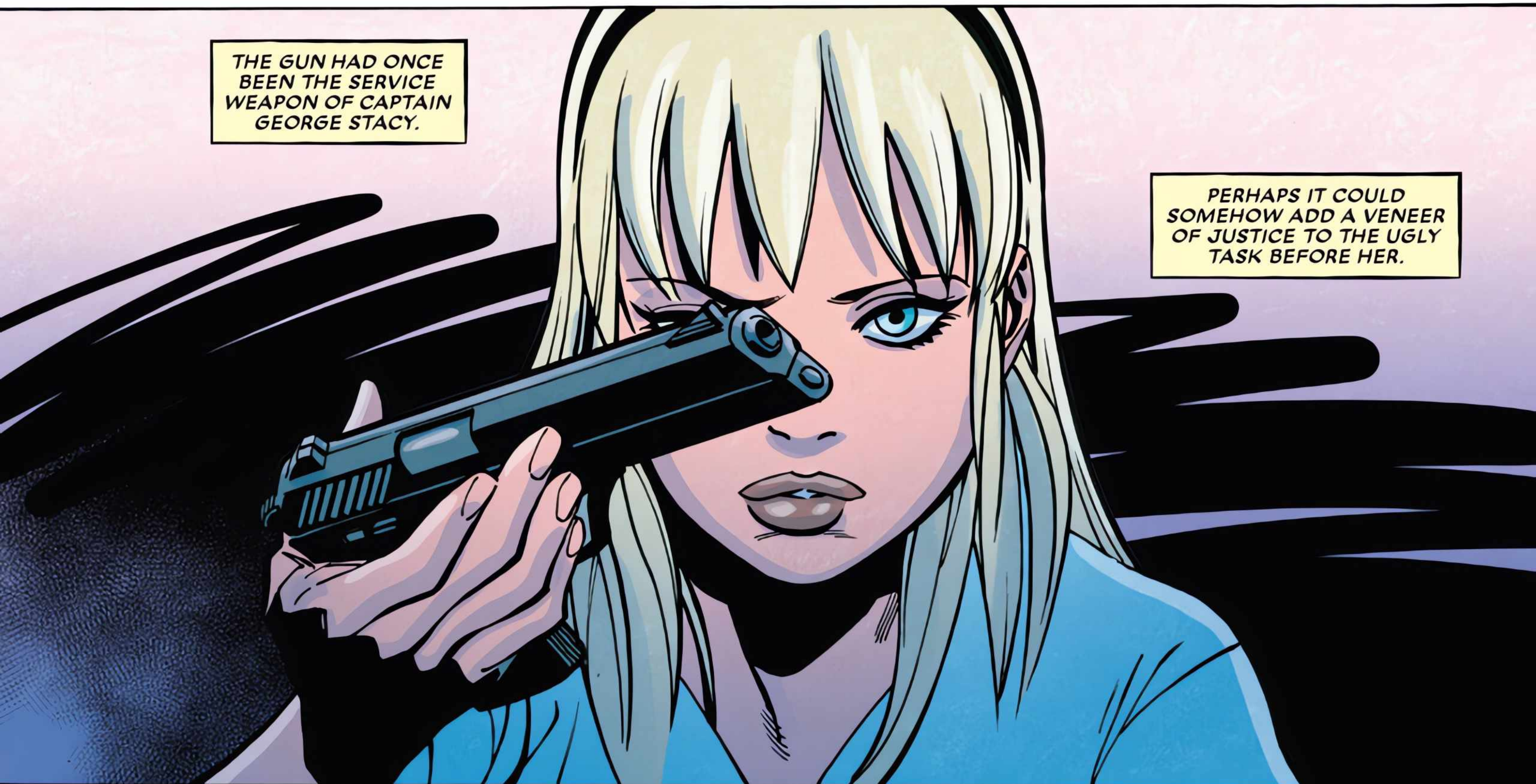
AND THAT SHOULD JUST ABOUT DO IT.



BUT THERE WAS ONE ASPECT OF THE PLAN THAT GWEN DIDN'T SHARE WITH HARRY.



THE TINIEST OF DETAILS THAT SHE FEARED HER RELUCTANT ALLY WOULD NEVER AGREE TO.



THE GUN HAD ONCE BEEN THE SERVICE WEAPON OF CAPTAIN GEORGE STACY.

PERHAPS IT COULD SOMEHOW ADD A VENEER OF JUSTICE TO THE UGLY TASK BEFORE HER.



BUT HOW TO LURE
THE MONSTER
INTO THE TRAP
THEY HAD BUILT?



GWEN WAS CONVINCED
THE GOBLIN WOULD BE
DRAWN BACK TO THE
SCENE OF HIS BRUTAL
VICTORY.

WHAT?!



THAT HE
WOULD WANT
TO CELEBRATE.
TO GLOAT.

WEBBING...?



BAH!

STILL ALIVE!
I'LL BE WAITING
AT 910 WEST
52nd STREET

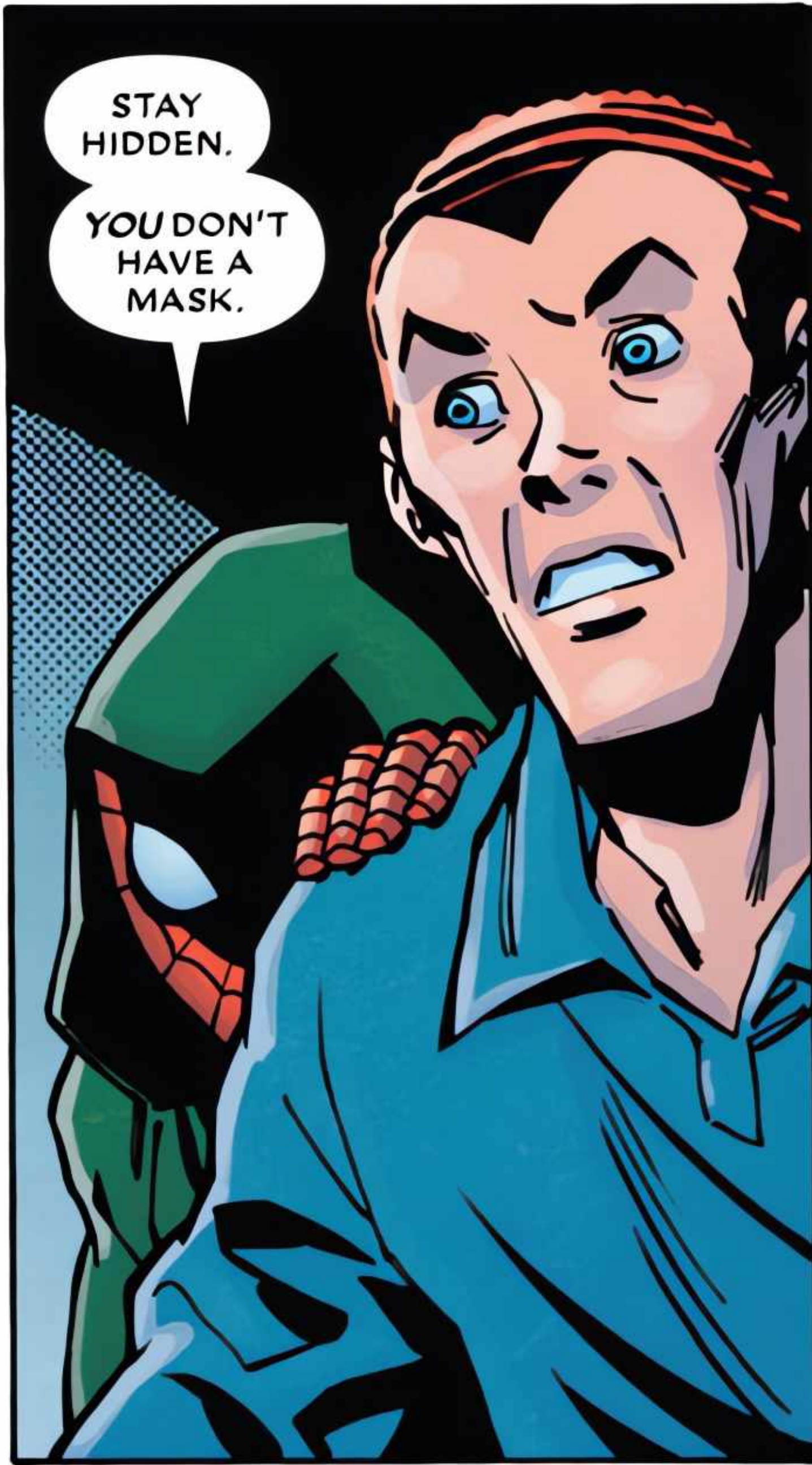
AND IF GWEN
COULD RIP THAT
VICTORY OUT OF
HIS HANDS...



...SHE COULD STEER
HIM IN WHATEVER
DIRECTION SHE
WANTED.









NNNNGH!
NOT BAD...FOR AN
IMPOSTOR.

SO, WHAT'S
THE PLAN NOW
THAT YOU'VE
CAUGHT ME?



ARREST ME?
JUSTICE FOR THE
POOR SQUASHED
SPIDER?

YOU
KNOW I'LL TELL
EVERYONE WHO
HE REALLY
WAS.



THIS WAS THE
MOMENT SHE HAD
BEEN WORKING FOR,
BEEN WAITING FOR.



SHE HAD TOLD HERSELF
HOW EASY IT WOULD BE.
JUST A SLIGHT MOVEMENT
OF THE FINGER.

OH, REALLY?
YOU THINK YOU
HAVE IT IN YOU TO
ACTUALLY STOP
ME?

THAT YOU
CAN DO WHAT THE
REAL SPIDER-MAN
FAILED TO?



ALL SHE HAD TO DO WAS
REMEMBER THAT MOMENT
WITH PETER IN THE WATER.

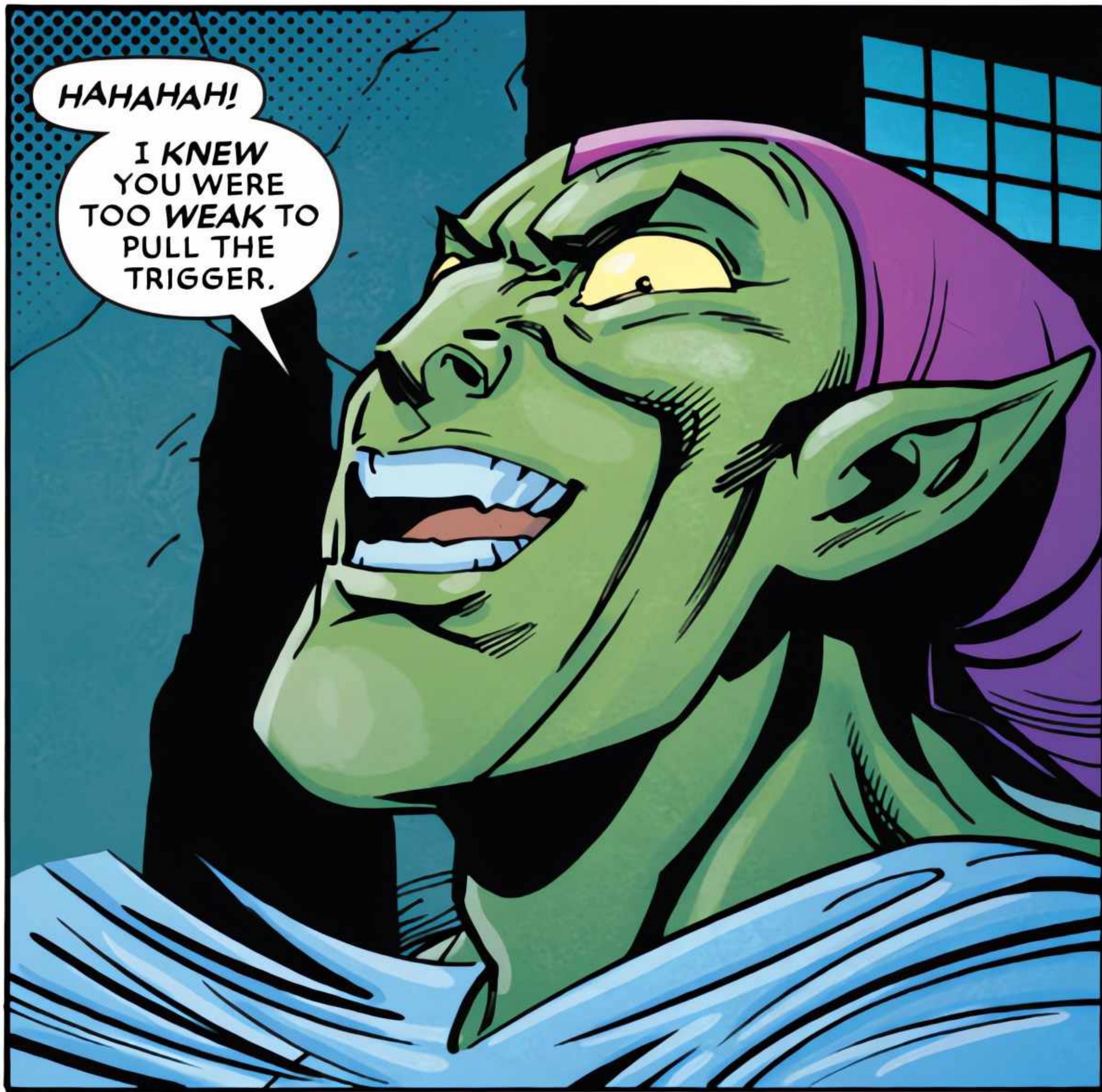
AND SO, SHE
REMEMBERED
PETER.

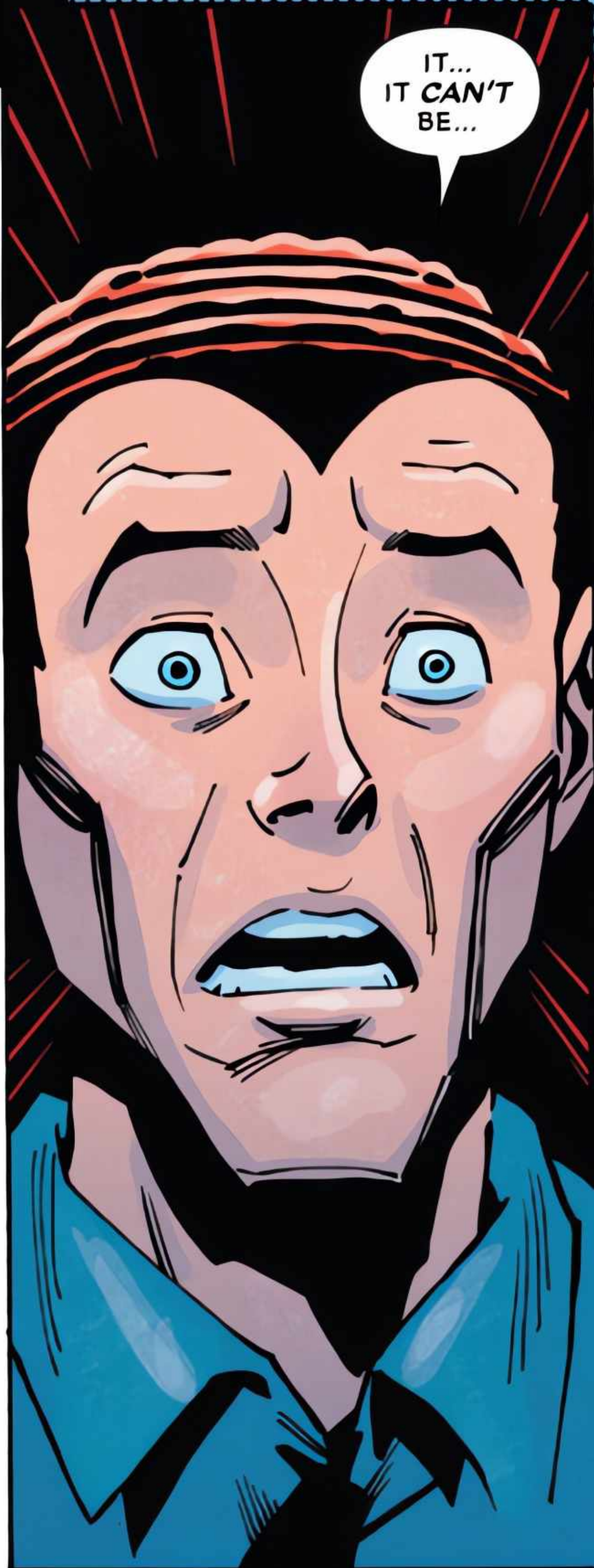
BRILLIANT
AND SILLY.

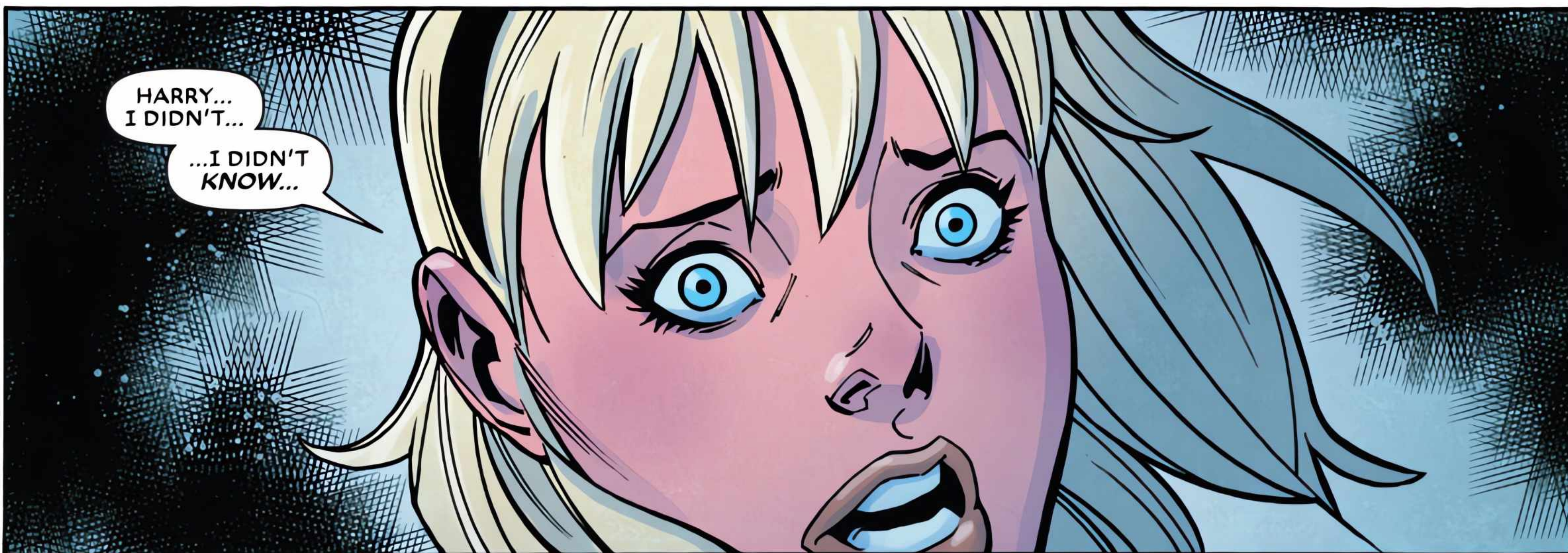
BRIMMING
WITH LIFE AND
PURPOSE AND
POTENTIAL.

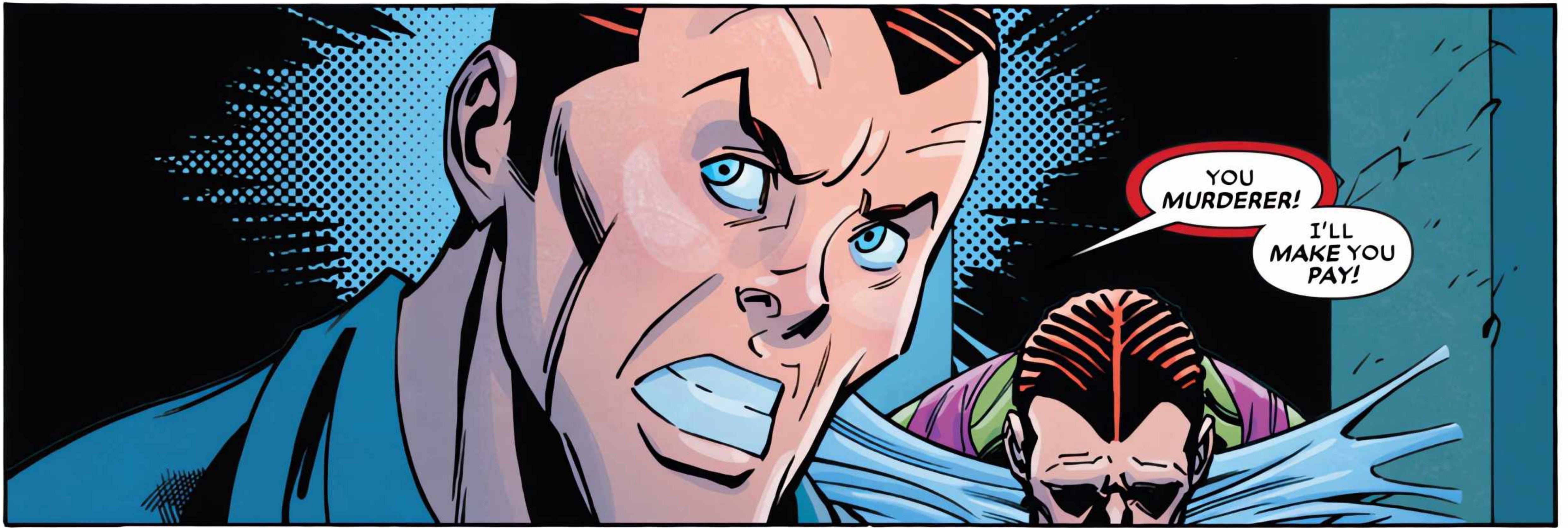
SO MUCH MORE
THAN SHE EVER
KNEW.











YOU
MURDERER!

I'LL
MAKE YOU
PAY!



MAYBE IT WAS HER FAULT.
SHE HAD DRAGGED HARRY
INTO HER SCHEME.

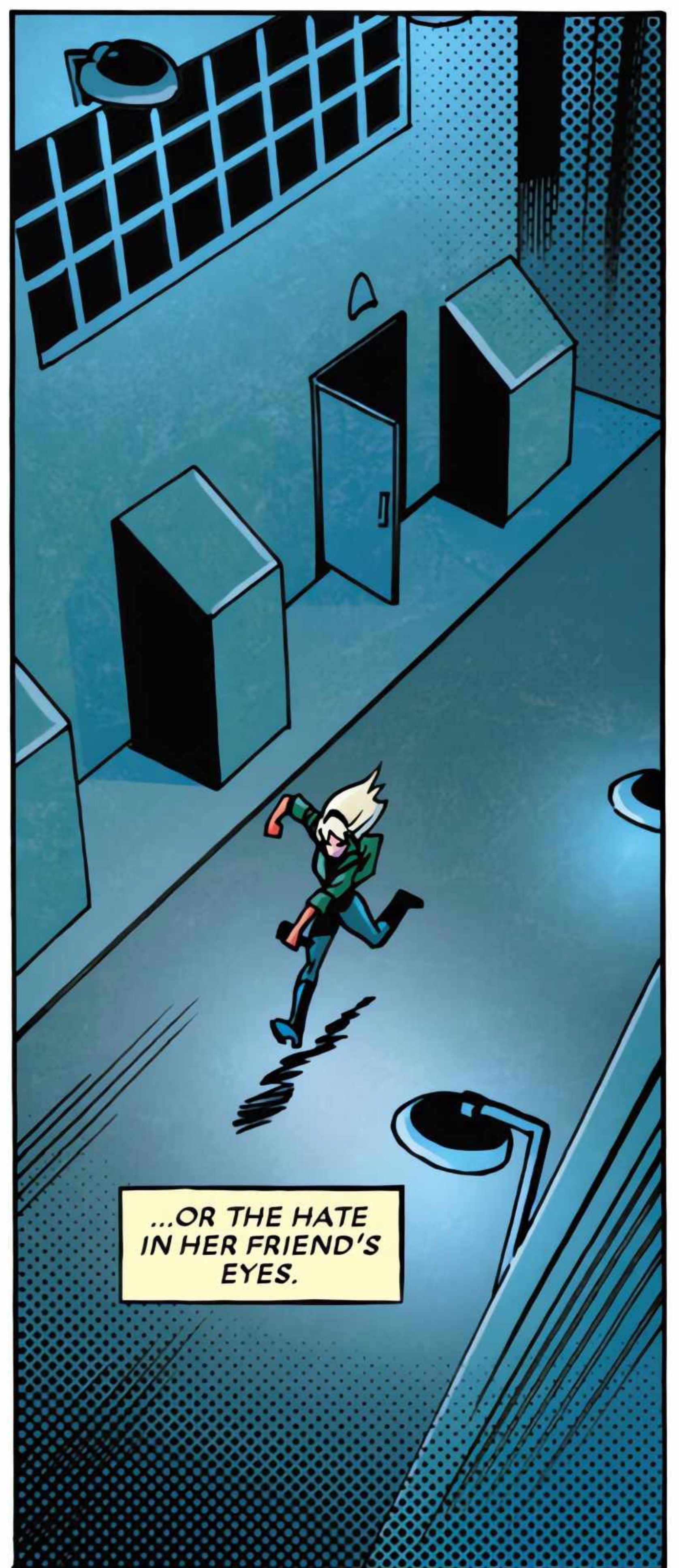
SHE WAS
THE REASON HE
WAS THERE.



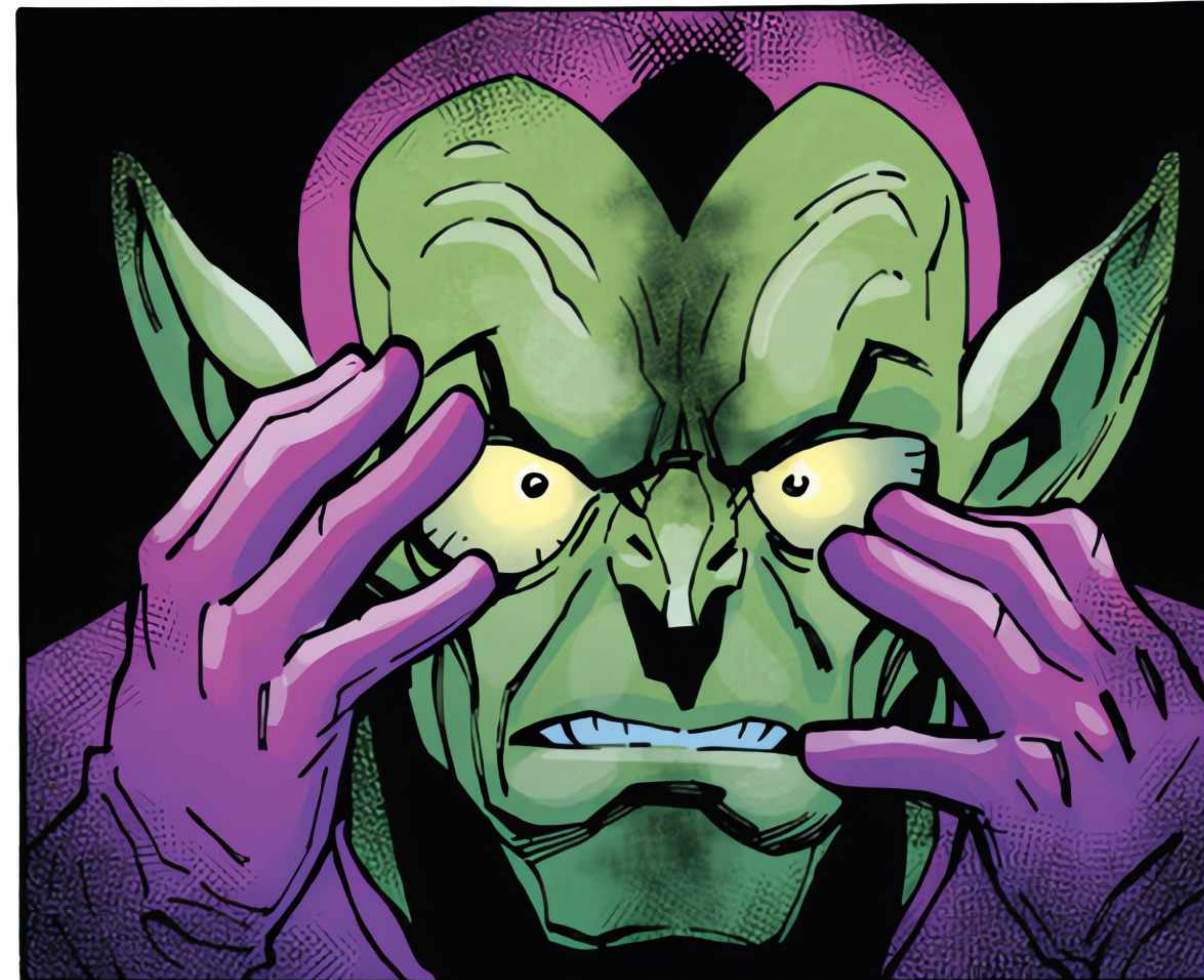
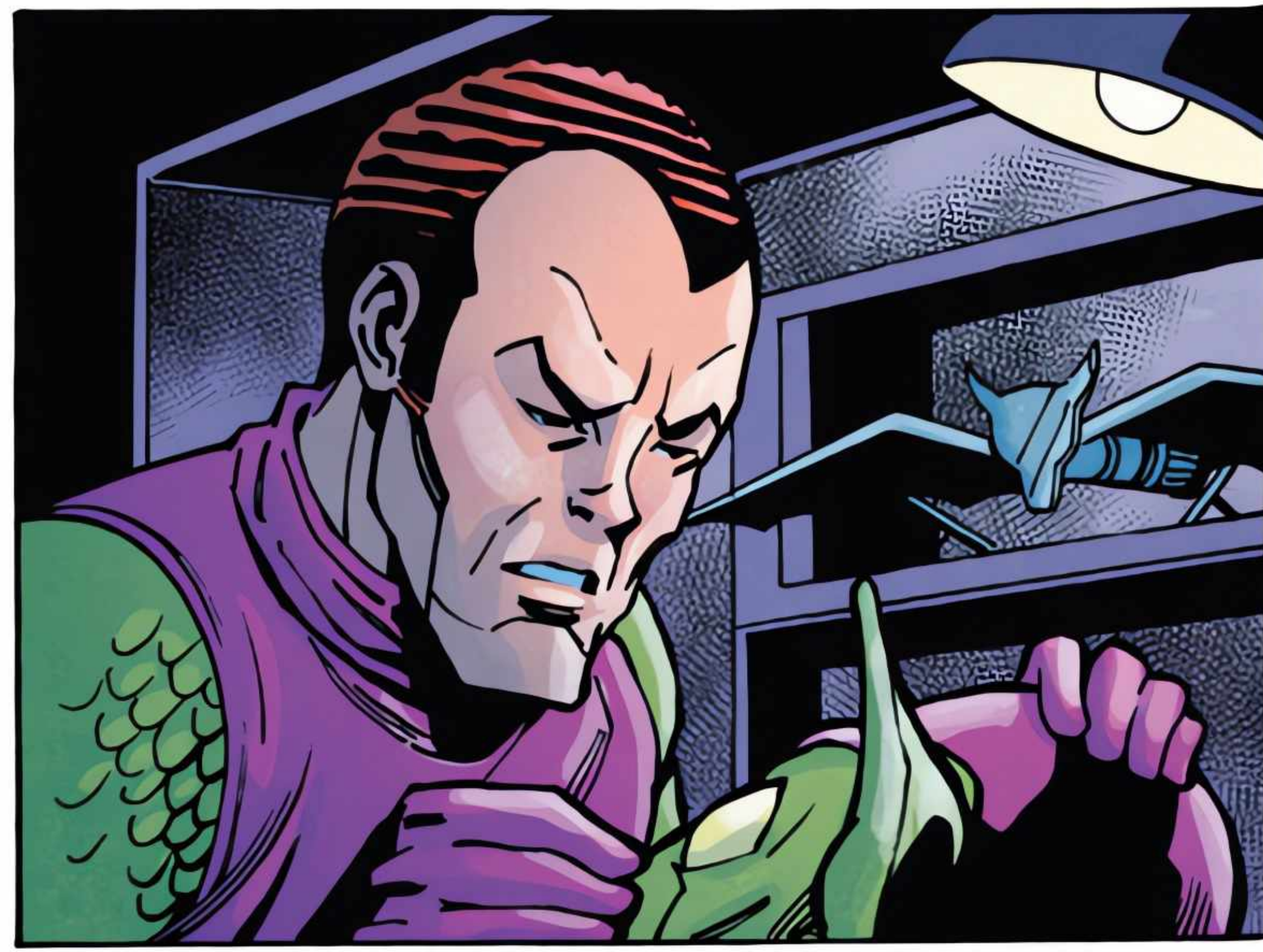
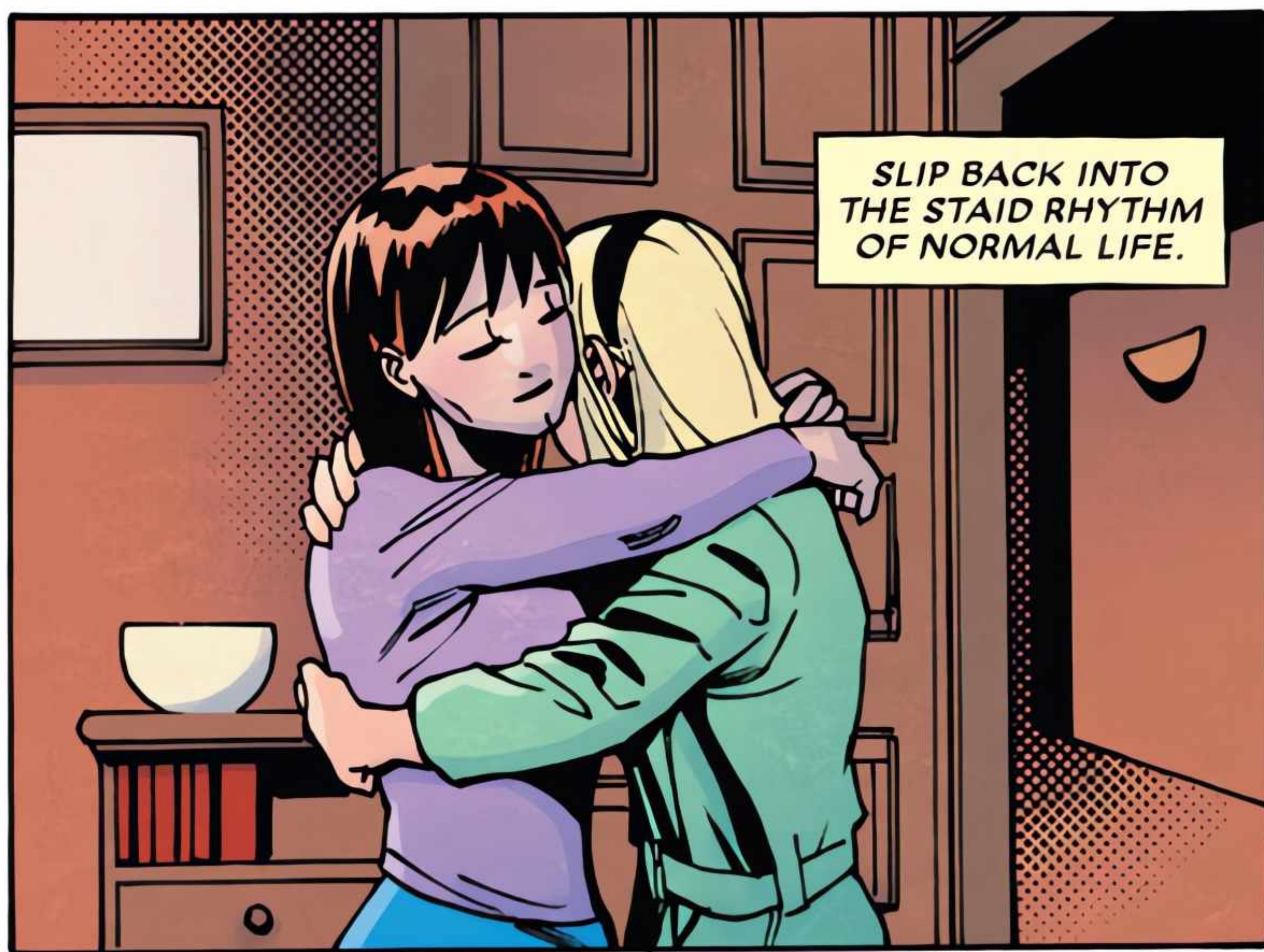
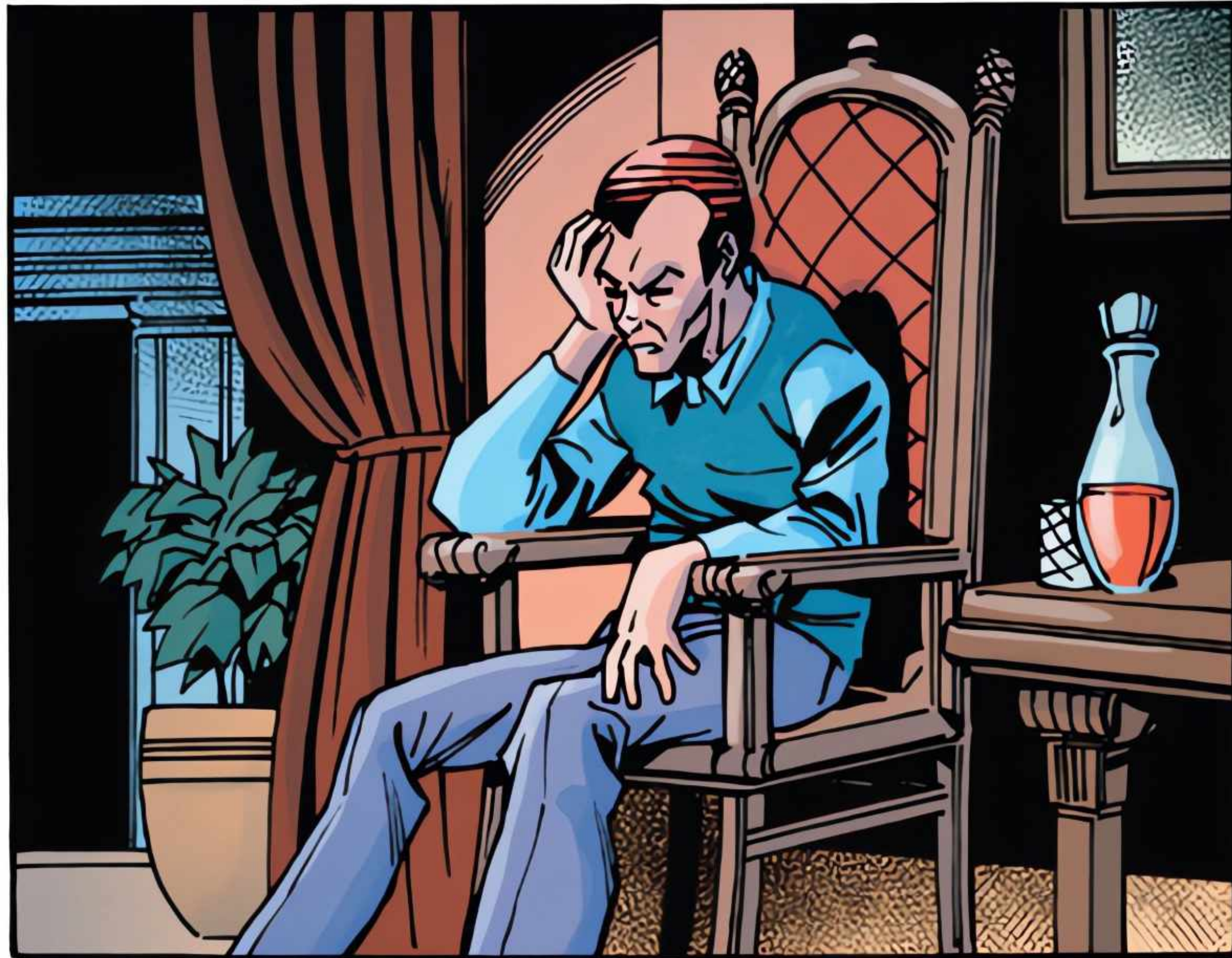
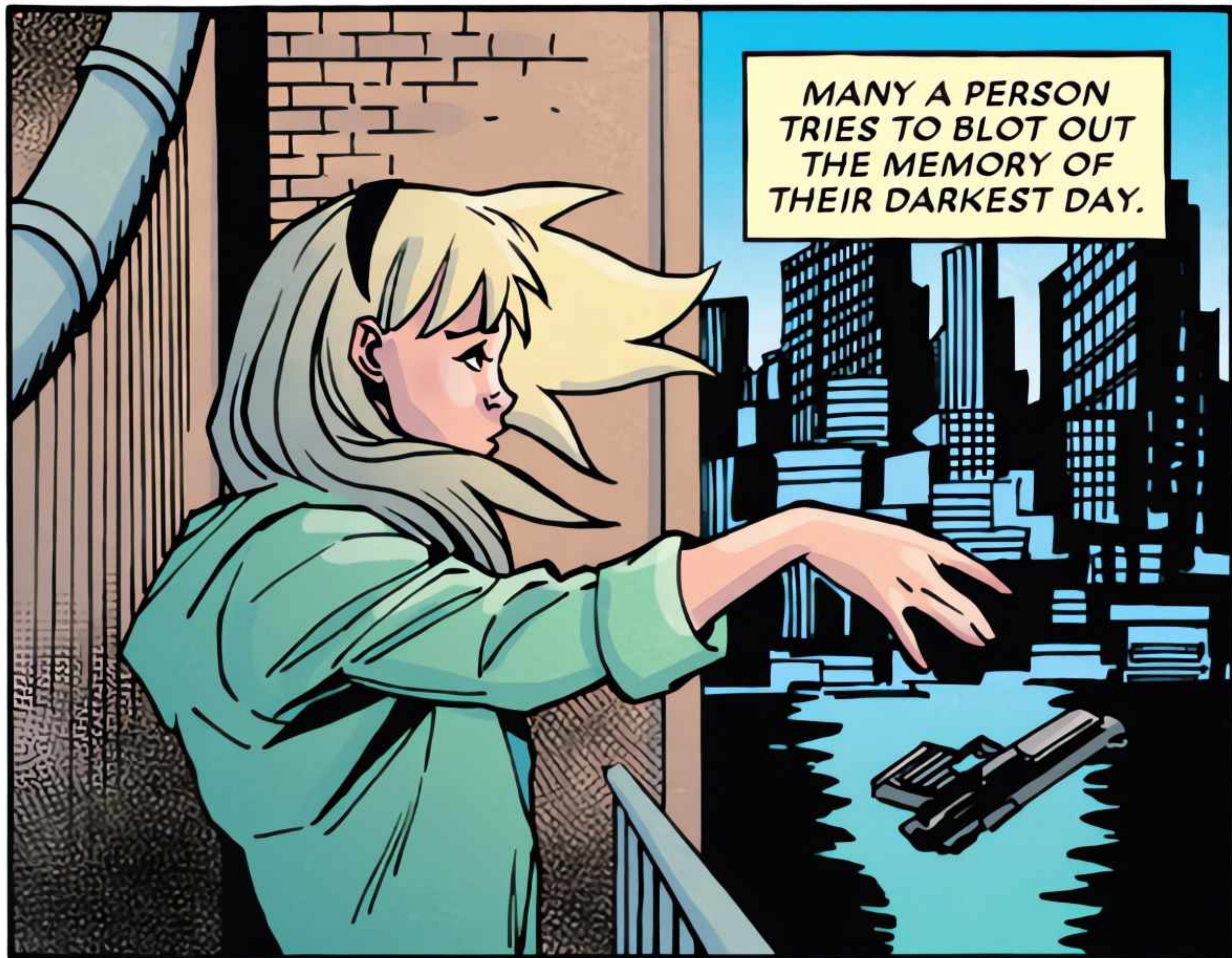
AND SO, SHE DID
THE ONLY THING SHE
COULD THINK OF.

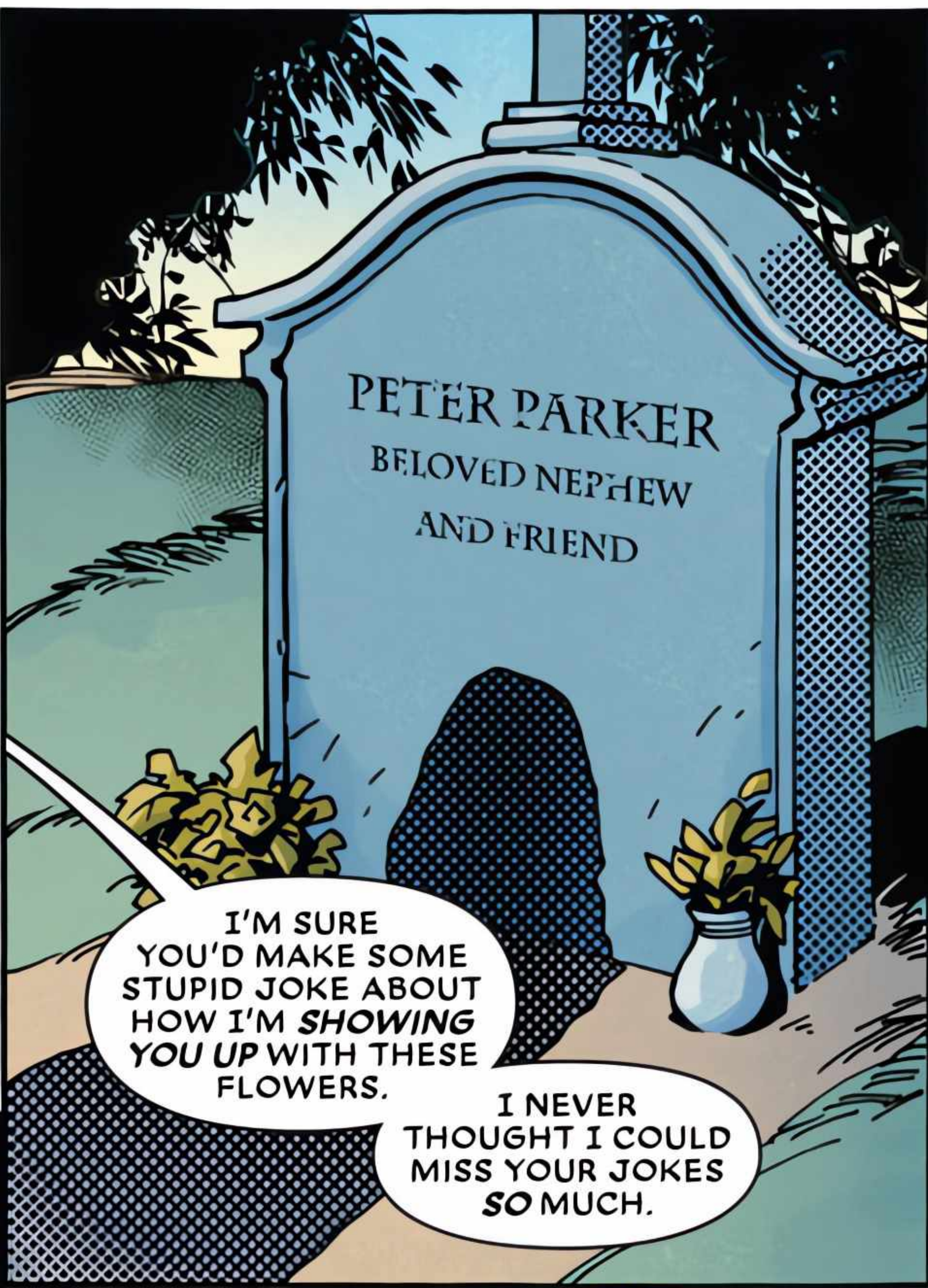
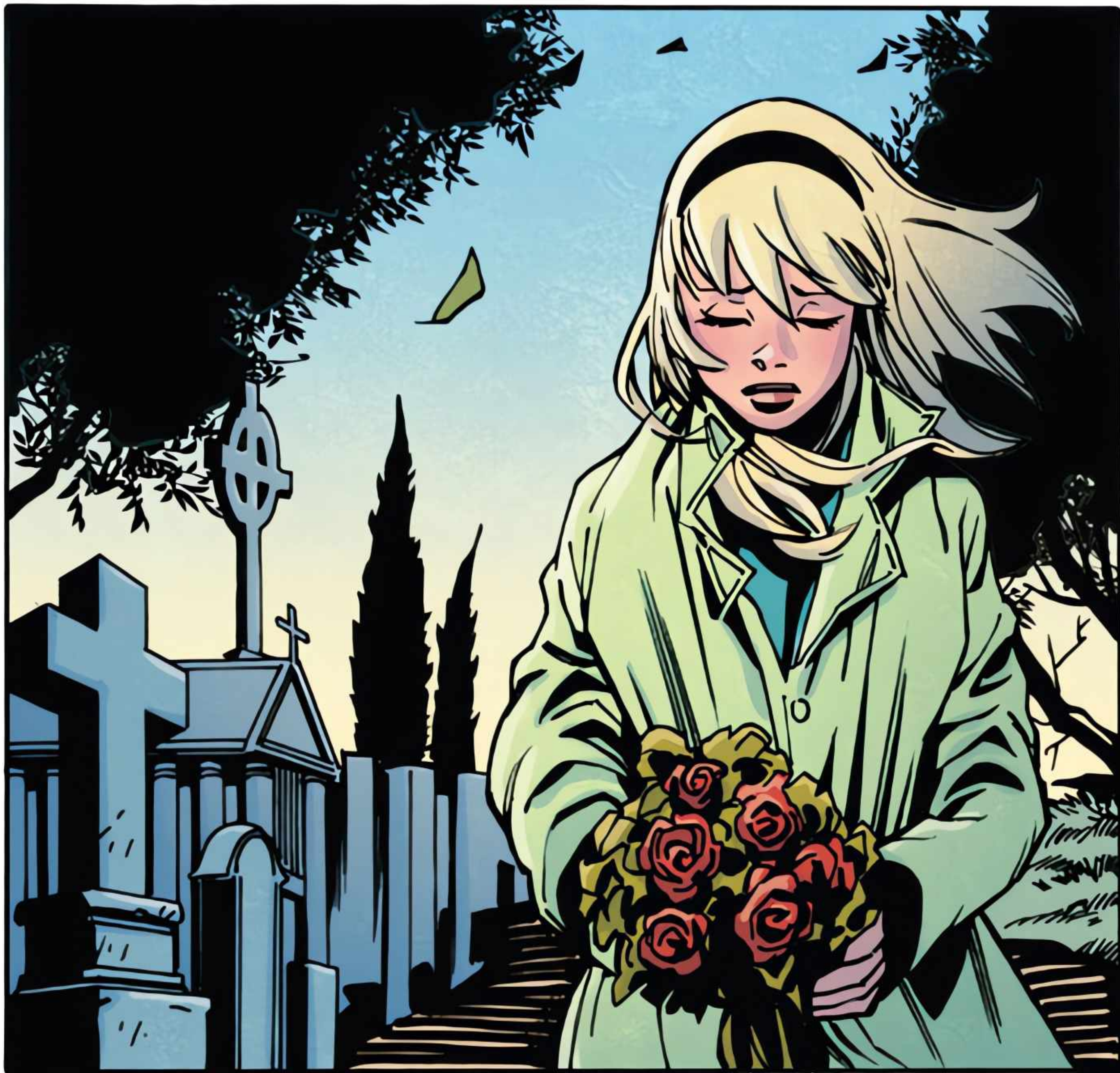


KNOWING THAT
SHE COULD NEVER
OUTRUN THE SOUND
OF THAT GUNSHOT...



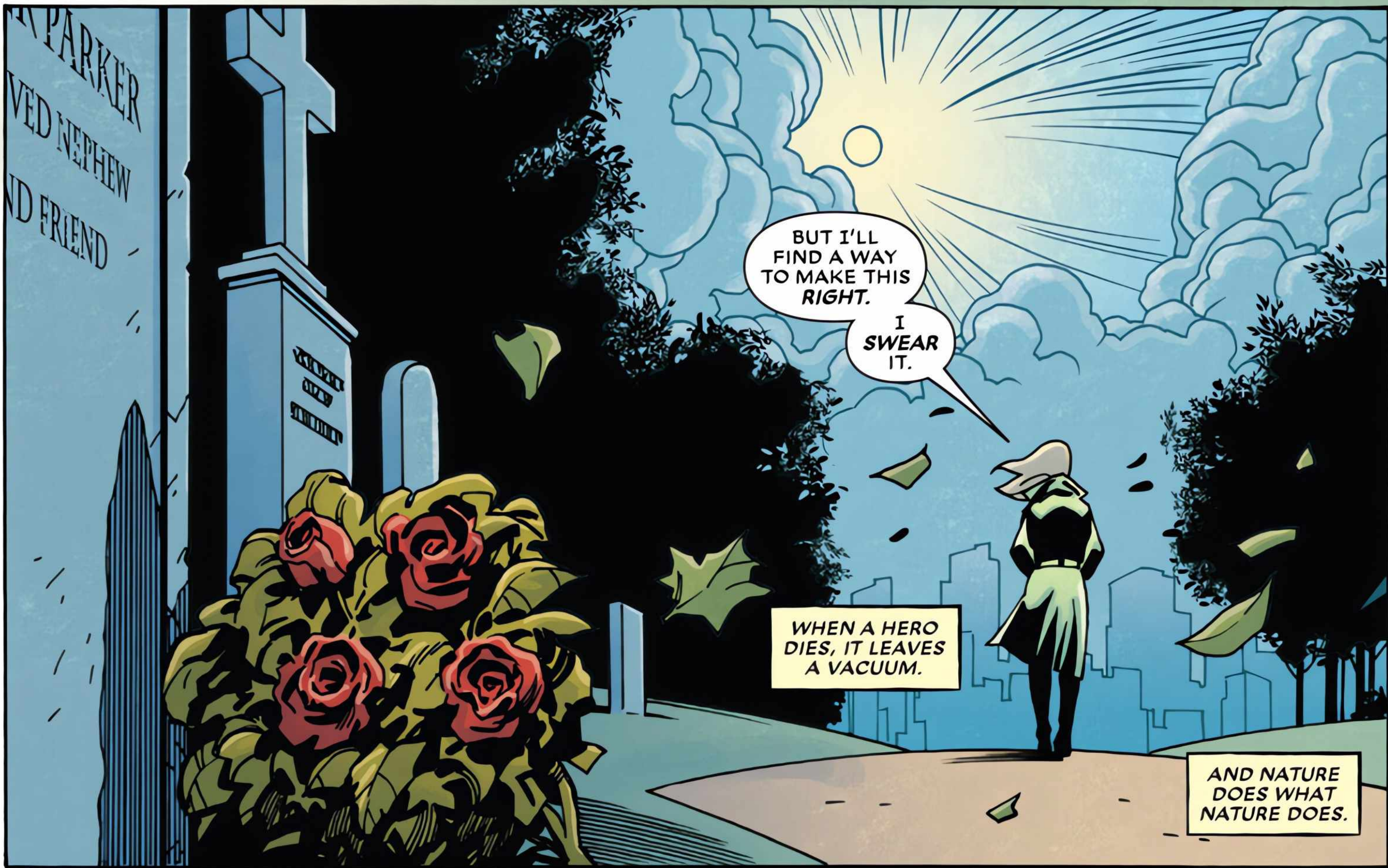
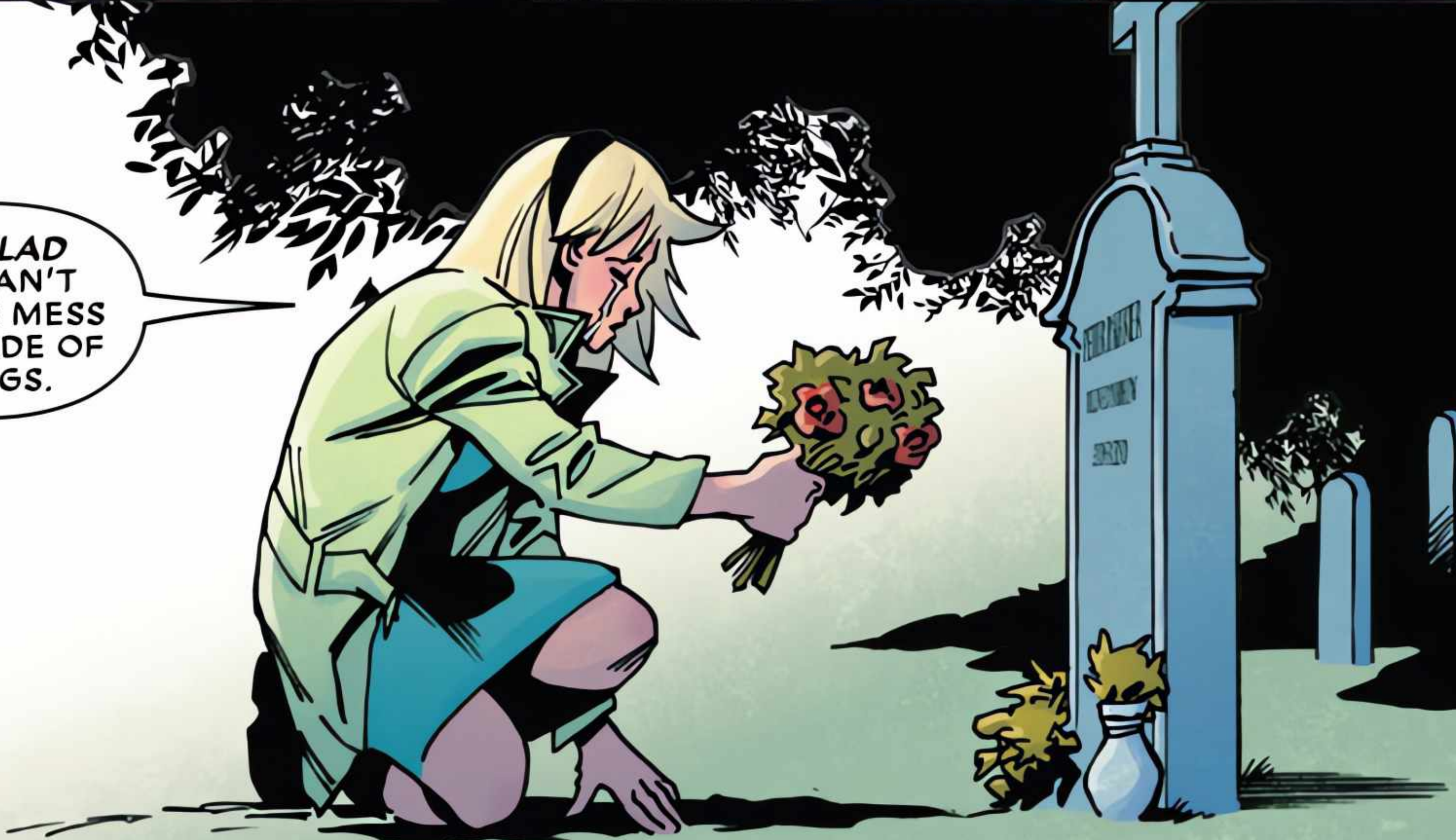
...OR THE HATE
IN HER FRIEND'S
EYES.

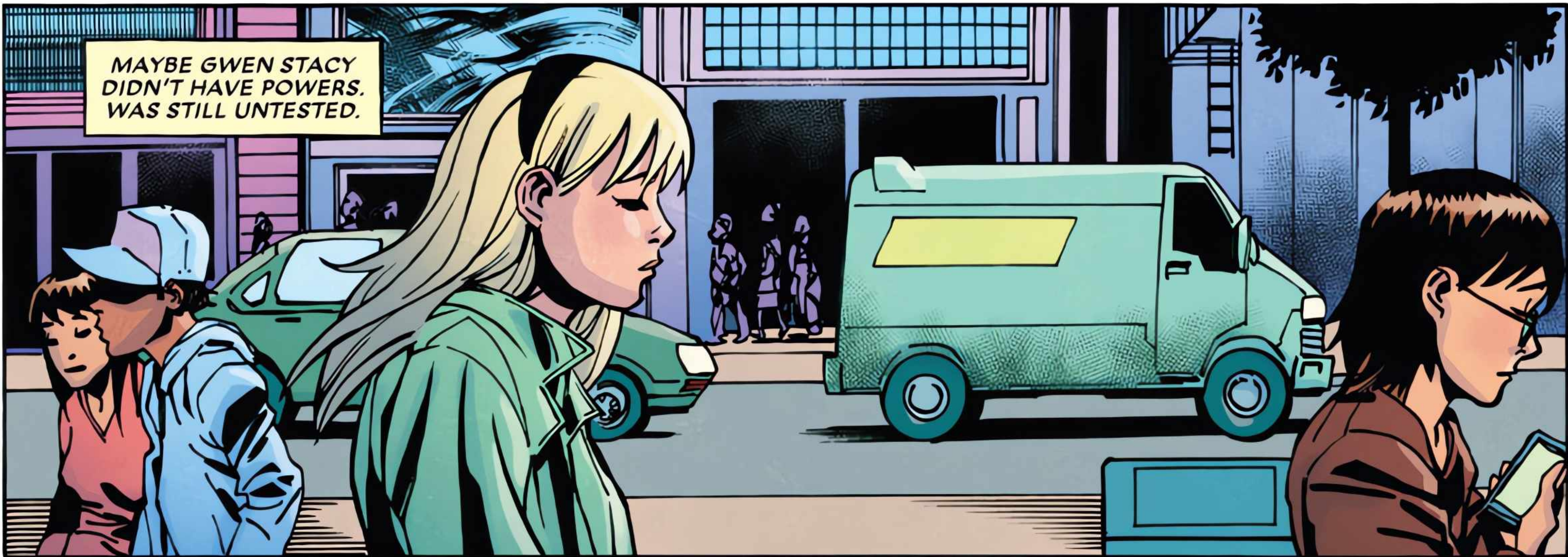




OH, PETER. I JUST...

I'M GLAD YOU CAN'T SEE THE MESS I'VE MADE OF THINGS.





MAYBE GWEN STACY DIDN'T HAVE POWERS. WAS STILL UNTESTED.



BUT SHE HAD MADE A PROMISE.



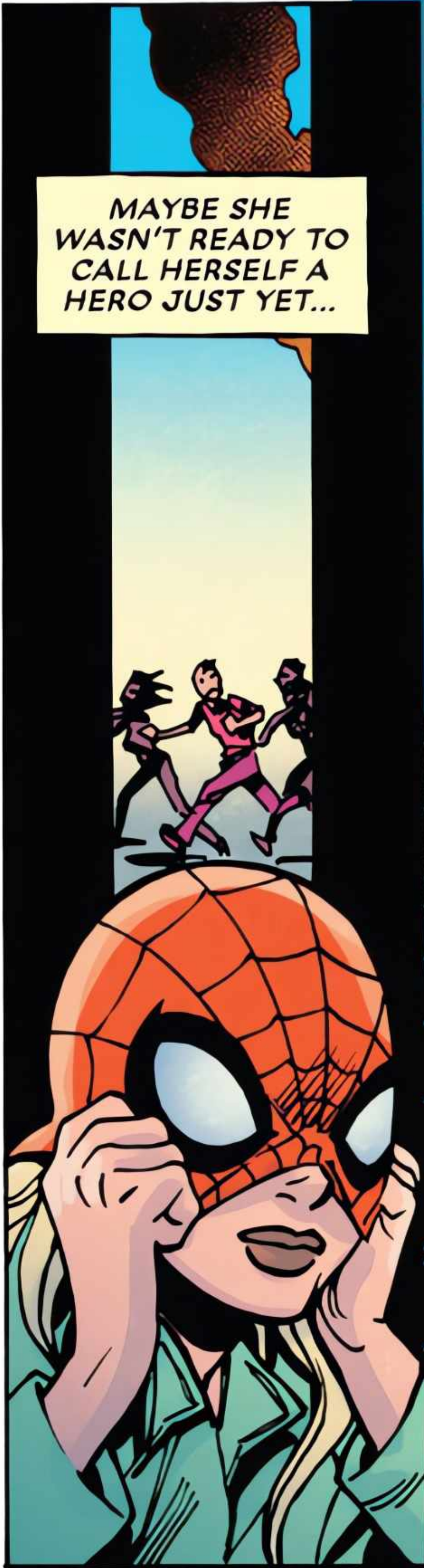
SHE'D HELPED MAKE A MONSTER.

HAHAHAHA!

OH, HARRY...



AND SHE WAS DONE HIDING FROM BOTH.



MAYBE SHE WASN'T READY TO CALL HERSELF A HERO JUST YET...



...BUT SHE WAS FINALLY STEPPING OUT OF THE SHADOWS OF HER DARKEST DAY.

END.

The Marvel Universe is filled with infinite possibilities. One small choice can change the course of history and set the universe on any number of different paths. What if those choices, those moments, turned the situation...dark?

WHAT IF...? DARK



SPIDER-GWEN

What if...on the night of the fateful battle against the **GREEN GOBLIN**-- Peter Parker, A.K.A. **THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN**, had died, NOT Gwen Stacy?!

**GERRY CONWAY
AND JODY HOUSER**
PLOT

**RAMÓN F.
BACHS**
ARTIST

**DEE
CUNIFFE**
COLORIST

JODY HOUSER
SCRIPT

**VC's ARIANA
MAHER**
LETTERER

**GREG LAND &
FRANK D'ARMATA**
COVER ARTISTS

**ROSE BESCH;
MARC ASPINALL**
VARIANT COVER ARTISTS

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JOHN ROMITA, TONY MORTELLARO,
ARTIE SIMEK & DAVID HUNT

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NEXT

THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #30



AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #121

IF YOU WANT TO READ THE CLASSIC
TALE... "THE NIGHT GWEN STACEY DIED"!



SPIDER-GWEN: SHADOW CLONES #4

CHECK GHOST-SPIDER OUT IN THE
CURRENT MINISERIES ON SALE NOW!



EDGE OF SPIDER-VERSE #2 (2014)

FOR THE ORIGIN OF GWEN STACY,
SPIDER-WOMAN!